FBIS DAILY REPORT

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MARTINEZ SAYS IMF LETTER OF INTENT ALMOST READY

WA3010[illegible] Rome IPS in English 30 May 84

[By Ignacio Pena Salazar]

[Text] Buenos Aires, May 30 (IPS) -- The Argentine Government has a letter of intent "practically ready" for the International Monetary Fund, the main step to a loan accord, Vice President Victor Martinez said today. Martinez spoke at the Buenos Aires airport shortly before leaving for El Salvador for the presidential inauguration ceremonies there.

The Argentine letter of intent was reportedly the main topic of discussion at a meeting May 28 of President Raul Alfonsin, Economy Minister Bernardo Grispun, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, and U.S. Ambassador to Argentina Frank Ortiz. Argentina must sign an IMF accord by June 1, under a deadline set by the U.S. Treasury.

The U.S. Government will reimburse Colombia, Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela for the $300 million loan they granted Argentina last March. That "bailout" loan enabled Argentina to pay interest arrears on its $43 billion foreign debt. But there are domestic political obstacles which may prevent Argentina from meeting the June 1 deadline.

The administration has promised to submit the letter of intent to Congress, since the Constitution grants the legislature certain powers concerning the foreign debt.

The U.S. ambassador has proposed that Argentine officials gain approval of the letter of intent from the IMF mission now in Buenos Aires, to ensure that the IMF board will accept it. He has also contacted legislators, seeking accords with members of the ruling Radical and opposition Peronist Parties on the IMF letter.

Ortiz has obtained assurances from Argentine officials that the letter of intent will not be delayed until an upcoming meeting of Latin American foreign and economy ministers planned in Bogota, Colombia, to study the foreign debt problem. Argentine Foreign Ministry sources have said that meeting will not take place until after the summit of the seven main industrial countries June 7-9 in London. The London talks will focus on the Third World debt and international interests rates, and the Latin American ministers want to hear the results of that meeting before holding their own summit.

Meanwhile, several Argentine dailies reported today that Argentina's creditor banks are set to propose a new formula for payment of about $1.3 billion in interest charges which fell due in the first three months of this year, and which are now in arrears.

DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT OF BRIDGE LOAN EXTENDED

PY010359 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2353 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 May (DYN) -- Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun tonight reported that a new extension of 1 month was granted today to Argentina to pay the $300 million credit granted on 31 March, 1984, by Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, and Colombia. The credit, the payment of which was due today, was granted to cover the payment of the delayed interests of the foreign debt to private banks guaranteed by the U.S. Federal Reserve until Argentina obtains the standby loan from the IMF.

GRINSPUN SAYS DEBT SURCHARGES WILL BE REJECTED

PY011341 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpts] Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun yesterday warned that Argentina will reject the imposition of surcharges as an alleged penalty for its classification as a risk country. Minister Grinspun made this warning in a speech he delivered before businessmen and ambassadors from various countries, including the United States, Japan, and Cuba.

The minister affirmed that the democratic government will honorably meet all obligations legally contracted by the country. The democratic government, he said, has sufficiently proven that all its actions are based on respect for the law and human rights and on equal treatment to all its people without discriminating against ideological views, religions, and races. Therefore, Minister Grinspun said, now that we have cleaned our tarnished reputation, we will not approve of unfair classifications because the democratic government will honorably meet all obligations legally contracted by the country, which means that Argentina does not pose any risks.

The economy minister made these severe warnings in a speech delivered at the auditorium of the Argentine Importers and Exporters Association.

It is worthwhile to note that the minister also reiterated that the foreign debt will be paid without regressive policies that might affect the interests and dignity of the nation.

$500-MILLION LOAN REPORTEDLY GRANTED TO BOLIVIA

PY021345 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS 0005 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (NA) -- Highly reliable sources have stated that the Argentine Government has allegedly granted Bolivia a $500-million loan on a more than 10-year term. It was also learned that the Argentine Government is studying the possibility of donating a shipment of food to that country within the framework of the National Nutrition Program. These decisions were virtually made today after a resolution in this regard was immediately approved by the Chamber of Deputies last night at the proposal of Justicialist legislator Jose Manzano, first vice president of the Justicialist bloc.

Until now the negotiations being carried out in this capital by Bolivian representative Marcelo Paz Navajas had allegedly run against some obstacles in some government sectors. However, today Foreign Relations Ministry authority Raul Alconada Sempe swiftly changed the course of the negotiations being conducted by other authorities in this field.

Also, Commerce Secretary Ricardo Campero undertook the commitment of materializing the Bolivian request for a credit and specifically summoned a meeting for early Monday with numerous leading food suppliers, since part of the $500-million loan will be granted in terms of food. Moreover, the Argentine-Bolivian Joint Commission will be summoned to analyze the exchange plans that could include the purchase of Bolivian goods by Argentina to replace similar goods currently acquired in other areas.

Of the $500 million, $400 million will be used for the Bolivian development program, including a rural electrification system and the construction of hydroelectric plants. Of the remaining $100 million, $90 million will be used to acquire industrial input and spare parts and $10 million for foodstuff.

At first the Argentine Foreign Ministry was against the Bolivian request due to that country's decision to declare a unilateral moratorium regarding its foreign debt. However, after the Chamber of Deputies resolution last night, the Commerce Secretariat and other members of the Foreign Ministry adopted measures to make positive progress in the negotiations. Consultations in this regard have already been made to the Argentine Central Bank. The Argentine legislators, in reaching the aforementioned decision, believe that they have taken an important step to obtain international support for the decision of the Bolivian Government regarding the international banking sector.

GRINSPUN ANNOUNCES 14-PERCENT WAGE HIKE

PY011935 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Jun 84 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun last night announced the June wage hike will be 14 percent and confirmed Central Bank statements that interest rates would remain at 13 and 14 percent. The minister also announced a pension increase of 16 percent for June.

The minister said the retroactive wage adjustment for the second quarter would be made as soon as the June cost of living figure was announced, rather than with the July pay packet at the beginning of August. Grinspun emphasized this adjustment would amount to a four percent increase in real wages for the first six months of the year.

The 14 percent wage hike was reportedly decided after Planning Secretary Juan Sourrouille told the socio-economic cabinet the National Institute for Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) was estimating the May inflation figure at 16.5 percent.

CGT Says Hike Not Enough

PY020222 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2219 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 1 Jun (TELAM) -- At the end of today's meeting of the CGT [General Labor Confederation] executive board, Secretary General Saul Ubaldini indicated that the 14-percent wage hike which the government has granted for June is not enough, and said that he was displeased because it does not alleviate the plight of the most needy sectors. As to the payment of a full annual bonus which the CGT reportedly requested be made in June, Ubaldini explained that the subject must be studied in full to prevent it from unleashing another upsurge of inflation.

On the 14-percent salary hike which the Argentine Government announced yesterday, the leader of the united CGT voiced displeasure and added that it is not enough even to alleviate the social and economic plight of the most needy sectors, that is, the workers. "We want changes to the policy that will go beyond mere percentages and will take care of prices and salaries in such a way that it will resolve the purchasing power problem and will lead to the much ballyhooed economic reactivation which has yet to take place. We cannot talk in terms of agreements on such paltry bases. The rejection of this situation is evident in the widespread dissatisfaction of the workers, something which the CGT fully supports," Ubaldini emphasized.

Terms Hike a 'Joke'

PY032158 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 2 Jun 84 p 1

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- The Unified General Confederation of Labour (CGT) last night blasted the government's 14 percent wage hike for June as an "undeserved and intolerable joke." The CGT demanded the government change its income policy "before the harm done becomes irreprable and leads to anarchic situations benefiting no one."

The unified CGT yesterday also announced the traditional CGT building on Azopardo will be the site of ex-President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron's address to confederation leaders next Wednesday.

In addition, the CGT reported only one of its four national secretaries-general, Ramon Baldassini, will accompany Labour Minister Juan Manuel Casella to the International Labour Organization's (ILO) annual conference in Geneva which begins on Monday.

Signed by Secretary-General Saul Ubaldini, last night's CGT statement said the hike "borders on the absurd" and blamed the Economy Ministry for using wages as an economic variable, "as decided upon by the International Monetary Fund through its letter of intent." The CGT called for an immediate return to collective contracts to allow workers' wages to keep up with inflation.

Union sources meanwhile said Mrs Peron requested the use of the CGT building, under trustee control by the government, which the Radical government reportedly agreed to.

Neither Saul Ubaldini nor Jorge Triaca, the top CGT leaders, will be going to Geneva after an accord was reached between the internal groupings each leads, the ex-CGT Brasil and the ex-CGT Azopardo, respectively. Carlos Cabrera will instead lead the 12-member delegation made up evenly of Brasil and Azopardo men. Sources said Ubaldini, backed by Justicialist Party Vice-President Lorenzo Miguel, had hoped to go as well but none of the 36 CGT council members nominated him as a candidate.

Oil workers nation-wide and bus drivers in Cordoba are planning new and longer strike-action unless their wage demands are met, union sources said. Both groups yesterday ended 72 and 48 hour work stoppages.

NAVY COMMANDERS STUDY BUDGET REDUCTIONS

PY011605 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2317 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 May (DYN) -- Ranking Navy commanders today analyzed, in a long meeting which started in the afternoon and lasted 4 hours, the drastic reduction of this year's military budget, which will mean, to the Navy in particular, the virtual paralyzation of Navy units in the near future.

The meeting, which lasted from 1530 to 1930, was presided over by Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Ramon Arosa. All naval unit chiefs were present, including captains whose promotions are being considered by the Senate.

According to Navy sources, President Raul Alfonsin met with Arosa for 15 minutes this morning, a few hours before the meeting. The chief of state, who was on his way to Government House from the presidendial residency in Olivos, stopped at the Libertad Building, where he "had coffee" with the Navy chief. Well-informed sources surmised that during the brief and unexpected meeting, Alfonsin, as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, gave Arosa his last-minute opinions of the difficult budget matter to be analyzed in the afternoon.

The current year's military budget is not yet finally established, and it is undergoing intense adjustments before it is sent to the Defense Ministry and then to each of the Armed Forces. Nevertheless, in the case of the Navy, there is a concrete idea that 50 percent of its assigned funds will be used in the payment of salaries, and that the remaining 50 percent will, in principle, be used for instruction programs.

However, the possible inclusion within the latter 50 percent of expenses originating from the amortization of the Navy's foreign debt, contracted years ago during its re-equipment in Europe, is a matter of concern to the Navy chiefs. If this possibility becomes a reality, the operations budget would be reduced even further, and war ships as well as the Navy aviation and Marine infantry forces would be virtually immobilized for the rest of the year, at least.

In order to face this emergency, a number of theories were recently presented, such as the possible sale to Persian Gulf countries of the two missile-bearing destroyers built with modern British technology, but no concrete measures have been taken yet.

Minister on Cuts

PY020053 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Raul Borras, who traveled to San Luis with President Raul Alfonsin, made a statement before boarding the plane. Borras denied that the Navy's fleet may be paralyzed due to the lack of funds. He also said that he had no information on President Alfonsin's alleged dispieasure over statements made by retired military officers, claiming that he had not heard the president make any statements in that regard.

BUDGET DEFICIT DOWN FOR APRIL, UP FOR QUARTER

PY011822 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Jun 84 p 11

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- April's budget deficit was $A12,266 million, or only 5.55 percent of that in April 1983, in constant values. A report issued last night by the Finance Secretariat also said the total budget deficit for the first four months of this year totalled $A48,565,182. But the deficit for the first four months of this year was 7.2 percent higher than during the same period of 1983. Last April's lower deficit resulted from 29.4 percent lower revenue as opposed to 38.6 percent lower expenditure.

PARTIES REPORT ON DIALOGUE WITH ALFONSIN

PY011940 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Jun 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin and Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli yesterday met the right-of-centre Federal Party, the locally dominant Neuquen Popular Movement and the Popular Federal Force (FUFEPO) alliance of provincial parties in the latest step in a round of political talks.

The Federal Party's representatives afterwards highlighted the areas of agreement between them and the government, particularly where national unity was concerned, but the Neuquen politicians called for "drastic changes in financial policies" in order to "end with aid to speculators, thus delaying the country's development." FUFEPO's eight spokesmen, including Corrientes Governor Jose Antonio Romero Feris and Jujuy Federal Deputy Cristina Guzman, emphasized the need to combat inflation.

Francisco Manrique, president of the Federal Party, and three of his advisers spent more than an hour with Alfonsin. They agreed on the need for a system of collective wage bargaining and for consultation between Latin American countries on the foreign debt issue. Nevertheless, Manrique criticized the recent law to restore the good name and property of former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron. He also expressed fears the National Food Plan (PAN) could be corrupted to serve either financial gain or political purposes. "Attempts to dictate wages, prices, interest and exchange rates generate the pressures which destroy democracy," he said. He also called for the budget deficit to be reduced to four percent of the Gross National Product.

The seven-man Neuquen delegation, headed by Federal Senators Elias Sapag and Jorge Solana, called for more vigorous action on the human rights front and for a more active congressional role in foreign debt negotiations. They stressed the importance of an independent nuclear policy and the dangers of signing international treaties in this area.

OIL, TRANSPORT WORKERS STRIKES PLAGUE NATION

PY011826 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Jun 84 p 1

[Excerpt] (DYN-NA) -- Petrol shortages were expected in parts of the country today as the nation's 45,000 oil workers lay down their tools for 24 hours. The Federation of State Oil Workers (SUPE) yesterday called on its 33,000 members to join the 12,000 private sector workers on strike since last Wednesday.

Strikes plagued the nation yesterday with bus drivers in Cordoba and Santa Fe paralyzing urban traffic, Federal Capital telephone workers working to rule, and the radio announcers' union placing its 1,500 members on a "state of alert."

Effects of the oil strike were already evident yesterday with industry spokesmen warning of the "extremely critical" level of petrol reserves at service stations in Entre Rios, Corrientes, Tucuman, Salta, Jujuy, and parts of Buenos Aires and Cordoba. In Salta, meanwhile, 300 workers contracted by the state oil firm (YPF) continued a two-day occupation of a drilling site to protest the 29-day suspension without pay clamped on them. Soup kitchens were set up at the site by workers and their families.

At the national level, both private and public sector oil workers' federations were demanding wage hikes. SUPE, in addition, sought the reestablishment of a workers' "compensating fund" and accused YPF of backing a rival oil union grouping.

Strike-breakers and bus owners in Cordoba were pelted with rocks for the second day despite police escorts. Windows were shattered in two buses while various others had their tyres punctured by spikes laid along city streets. City efforts to provide urban service included the temporary recruitment of 58 buses normally used to transport workers to industrial plants. Classes at all levels were meanwhile suspended yesterday.

DEBT TO BRAZIL OF $225 MILLION TO BE REPAIED

PY011450 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] The Bolivian Embassy in Brasilia has released a statement giving assurances that Bolivia will repay the $225 million debt that it owes to Brazil, and that it will do so in keeping with the terms of the agreement signed with Brazil, that is, a 9-year repayment period and a 3-year grace period.

MINISTER CONFIRMS PAYMENT OF FOREIGN DEBT

PY020226 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] The country has adopted a sovereign decision, but at no point has the country refused to fulfill its commitment with international backs. This statement has been made by Planning and Coordination Minister Ernesto Aranibar Quiroga in response to questions posed by Bolivian reporters. Aranibar said that the international banks must understand that our country cannot postpone its development, intensify the hunger of our people, or put an end to the democratic process reestablished in October 1982.

[Begin Aranibar recording] [Words indistinct] and as such we hope that the internation al banks will understand that the country cannot postpone its development, intensify the hunger of its people, or terminate the democratic process (?by trying) to fulfill commitments which can be adequately renegotiated. [end recording]

The planning minister added that the country must become aware of this position because in no way is the Bolivian Government refusing to meet its international obligations. We are trying to renegotiate our foreign debot in positive terms for the fatherland, he stated.

[Begin Aranibar recording] It is good for the country to become aware of this position and it is good that all creditors of the country, namely the international organizations know that the Bolivian Government in no way refuses to meet its obligations. [Passage indistinct] [end recording]

FNP CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT, FOREIGN DEBT DECISION

PY021550 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] The Progressive National Force [FNP] has issued a statement stressing that the delay in repaying the foreign debt should not be mistaken for a moratorium. The FNP points out that the government is unfit and that its package of drastic economic measures and its decision on the foreign debt have driven the country to chaos. The FNP notes that this decision has awakened very negative reactions in the international financial system, and has caused deep frustrations to the nation.

CONFUSION NOTED AT COB SESSION; LECHIN WALKS OUT

PY011322 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpts] The national assembly of labor leaders has decided in principle to support the agreements achieved between the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] and the government, although there was much confusion after Juan Lechin Oquendo walked out of the meeting. The national assembly also decided to continue holding negotiations with the government on unresolved issues such as salaries. It was announced that a negotiating committee would be established for this purpose.

It was precisely this last point that caused disagreements between union leaders, since COB leader Juan Lechin Oquendo argued that since this means that the general meeting did not trust the negotiations carried out by the COB Executive Committee [CEN] and the government -- at this point union delegates applauded for 10 minutes -- the CEN would start preparing for the forthcoming national congress, scheduled for 23 July, and drop negotiations with the government.

At 2115 Lechin Oquendo left the negotiating room. Other union leaders said that the COB's CEN should continue its negotiations with the government, but this was rejected by Lechin Oquendo who left the room in a hurry. Upon his withdrawal from the meeting Lechin told journalists he will restrict himself to those activities pertaining to the executive secretary of the Miners Union, and prepare for the workers general congress.

However, the commission could not be established yesterday at the meeting which was interrupted at 2140. After Lechin left the meeting, there was much confusion in the room, particularly in view of Lechin's attitude. All those attending the assembly wanted to address the meeting to explain the situation but since no agreement was reached union representatives decided to leave the Teachers Social Hall debate room. However, no one knows whether the general meeting ended or whether it was suspended.

BUSINESSMEN REJECT 130-PERCENT SALARY INCREASE

PY011455 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpts] Businessmen do not feel obliged to pay the 130-percent wage increase that was agreed by the government and the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] since the business sector was not consulted in these negotiations. According to the business sector, the salary increase was the result of a bilateral discussion without the participation of the sector that supports and provides jobs.

Increase Termed Final

PY011838 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Presidential Minister Secretary Miguel Urioste Fernandez today announced that the government's decision to grant a 130-percent increase is final because another wage increase is slated for August. The presidential spokesman disclosed this official decision in the wake of the resolutions adopted by the special meeting of union leaders held yesterday in Pa Paz, which include the resumption of negotiations with the government to discuss wages.

COCAINE TRAFFICKING UNRESTRICTED IN CHAPARE

PY021553 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] (Selier Rojas), director of the Cochabamba regional antidrug department, has said that Chapare turns out approximately 1,000 kg of cocaine daily. He reported that 12 light planes take off daily from [word indistinct] and fly to eastern Bolivia. There is neither control nor authority in Chapare, he said, and the cocaine trade is unrestricted. Drug traffickers, he continued, operate in the area with very well-organized intelligence services and with sophisticated weapons.

COMPANIES SELLING WEAPONS, EQUIPMENT TO IRAN, IRAQ

Grenades to Iran

PY011621 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 31 May 84 p 18

[By reporter Milton F. Da Rocha Filho]

[Text] Sao Paulo -- Iran is negotiating the purchase of 1 million grenades made by Explo [Chemical and Explosives Industries of Lorena, Sao Paulo], a company which is a member of the group of the Valparaiba Explosives Company. A staff member of the enterprise has said that this order will force the enterprises to increase its monthly output of 10,000 grenades. Explo is exporting small quantities of grenades of various types to Bolivia and Chile, but production goes to the Brazilian Armed Forces. Explo's exports began this year, the staff member said.

The Valparaiba company produces M3 type hand grenades (defensive-offensive) with a point fuse and an M9A timer; CNM3 hand tear gas cannisters which may be launched either manually or with a gun; antitank grenades; fire bombs; colored smoke hand grenades; hand tear gas cannisters; percussion shells for cannons [espoleta para canhoes], mortars and hand grenades, antipersonnel grenades; and 3.5 rockets. Valparaiba has gained a reputation in the exports market but, as is the case with the other ordnance industries, it does not reveal the purchasing countries.

Explo even managed to manufacture, besides the grenades, a small machinegun, the production of which was dropped. Explo's explosives are even used for geological purpose in mine exploration.

Early this year, Explo received an order from Iran for 1 million grenades, equivalent to Explo's 10-year production. Should this contract materialize, Explo's staff expects the first shipment to be shipped over the next few months. There is confidence that the deal will be closed and, for this reason, the enterprise is engaged in the production of all types of grenades, even those used for military training.

A businessmen in the export sector confirmed yesterday that this is the first arms order for a national enterprise by Iran. He stressed that there have been numerous rumors in the past, with many people passing on incorrect information, like the one saying that Iran was receiving arms which were exported as machinery.

Weapons, Equipment to Iraq

PY011453 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Sources in Brasilia have reported that Iraq has purchased Brazilian weapons and military equipment worth $300 million. The weapons and the equipment, which are already being delivered, were shipped from the ports of Santos and Sao Sebastiao.

Two Avibras [Brazilian Aviation Company] [word indistinct] Astros multiple rocket units (?were shipped) [words indistinct]. This is a devastating weapon that can hurl 2.4 tons of bombs over a 70-km range. Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc.] armored vehicles are also being shipped. Engesa has already delivered 180 armored vehicles, rockets, and ammunition.

NAVY CORVETTE FIRES AT FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS

FL012136 Bridgetown CANA in English 2118 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, June 1 (CANA-REUTER) -- A Brazilian Navy corvette opened fire against eight unidentified foreign vessels which were fishing illegally off its northern coastline, but the boats escaped unharmed, the Navy Ministry said today.

A spokesman told REUTERS that the corvette Piratini had machinegunned the vessels merely to force their crews to surrender. He said the nationalities of the vessels were not immediately known. Once they were spotted fishing in the Brazilian territorial waters off the Territory of Amapa, they escaped to the border waters of French Guyana.

Since 1979, an average of 15 boats have been caught fishing illegally off Amapa's coast, according to the Navy Ministry estimates.

About two months ago, the Brazilian Coast Guard caught a U.S. flag Night-Hawk, which was only released after paying a nearly U.S. 20,000-dollar fine and having its catch confiscated.

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO BACK FROM JAPAN, PRC

PY020049 Brasilia Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Flying in from San Francisco, California, President Joao Figueiredo today landed at 1245 in Brasilia, thus ending a 13-day trip to Japan and the PRC.

At the air base, President Figueiredo was welcomed by Vice President Aureliano Chaves, cabinet ministers, the president of the Federal Supreme Court, and Senate President Moacyr Dalla.

PRESIDENT RESUMES SUCCESSION COORDINATION

PY021450 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Excerpt] President Joao Figueiredo, who returned from Asia yesterday, has reaffirmed that he will not agree to the extension of his presidential term, that he will not choose any candidates for the PDS [Social Democratic Party] convention, and that he will not ask any of the current presidential candidates to step down.

He also said that he will speed up the dialogue in search for understanding, and that he will resume his coordinating role in the negotiations over the presidential succession. Figueiredo also promised that over the weekend he will analyze a study that proposes the parliamentary system as the most appropriate solution to the Brazilian political crisis.

BETANCUR INSTALLS VERIFICATION COMMISSION

PA011621 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1601 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Bogota, 1 Jun (EFE) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur today confirmed that his government will lift the state of siege "gradually."

Betancur made this announcement on initiating the working sessions of the Verification Commission for the truce agreement that has been reached with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). He also stressed that the private sector needs to cooperate in securing peace in the country's strife-torn regions, which require special investment.

Speaks at Ceremony

PA021719 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpts] The Verification Commission will take action to confirm the end of armed confrontations, to assist the government in modernizing its political institutions, to promote agrarian reform, to strengthen all organizations, to protect the right of association in all forms, and to make improvements in the areas of education and health, housing, and employment for the Colombian people.

During the Verification Commission's installation ceremony at the Narino Palace, President Betancur outlined the basic perspectives that constitute an approach to these issues. In his speech before the commission members, President Betancur said that the government and the Colombian people attach the highest and most solemn importance to the commission's provisional installation ceremony and thanked those who have believed and continue to believe that it is possible to find and walk the road to peace.

President Betancur made the following statement: Each of the commission members will act to promote a profound national dialogue on the great objectives of peace and justice in the institutions, organizations, or corporations that they represent.

Betancur also said that investments for areas affected by violence reached the level of 26.3 billion pesos in various public projects in 1983-84. Here are some excerpts from the president's speech:

[Begin Betancur recording] In order to give greater support to programs that supplement the amnesty law, it was deemed necessary to appoint high commissioners for peace and to give these distinguished citizens the responsibility of promoting and coordinating actions that the government's various organizations must take [words indistinct] toward violence, as well as encouraging the private sector's involvement in the search for solutions that will permit the reincorporation of our troubled areas into the development taking place in the rest of the country.

In close and permanent cooperation with the Peace Commission, the high commissioners have tirelessly visited the most remote villages and back roads, serving as spokesmen for all who are involved in the conflict, from the peasants, the fishermen, and small- and medium-sized businessmen to the large landowners. Throughout this time, the commissioners sought dialogue and understanding as ways to reduce tension and to facilitate creation of the climate of understanding that the difficult process of coexistence demands. The constant work undertaken by these high commissioners at the various government organizations to promote more rapid solutions has also helped to strengthen the commitment of public officials who have traditionally viewed their fellow citizens' problems passively and with indifference from their desks.

Although some difficulties and setbacks have been experienced, as in any other struggle, we have succeeded in transmitting our enthusiasm and faith to those who, in their respective positions, whether low or very important, must deal with and meet their fellow citizens' most urgent and demanding needs.

Despite budget problems encountered by the government, we have made efforts to somehow help the 160 municipalities throughout the entire country that are caught up in the persistent struggle among our brothers, such as Caqueta, Putumayo, Cauca, Middle Magdalena, Uraba, Alto Sinu, and others. We have made a great effort to restore confidence in the nation's authorities in those communities, to assure them that the (?government) was created to protect them, to guarantee their integrity, and to give them a chance to share in whatever progress our resources permit.

The investment plan in the areas that have been affected by violence has reached the level of 26.3 billion pesos in public projects in 1983 and 1984.

I said at the outset that this is a provisional installation, and that is true. The formal installation will be conducted some time later at a place to be designated by the president, in accordance with article five of the Peace Commission-FARC agreement, as soon as FARC has appointed its representatives.

Meanwhile, let us (?examine) what our country expects from the Verification Commission, not in great detail but as a general idea.

A. The commission will act to ensure the fulfillment of all provisions of the Peace Commission-FARC agreement in order to consolidate the process of securing peace.

B. The commission will create subcommissions in the areas mentioned in Article 4 of the agreement, which will in turn ensure compliance with the cease-fire and the cessation of armed confrontation, and announce the beginning of the 1-year waiting or testing period in which FARC will organize politically, socially, and economically, as they should, to participate in political activities.

D. [as heard] The commission will work with the government to restore civil order in the areas that have been affected by violence.

E. The commission will cooperate with the high peace commissioners in securing the benefits of Law 35 of 1982 on amnesty and supplementary decrees for those FARC members who fulfill the requirements established in the signed agreement.

F. The commission will help the government to promote the organization of political institutions, to foster agrarian reform, to strengthen the freedom of association in all its forms at the community level, to increase education, and to improve health, housing, and employment for the Colombian people.

G. The commission will give the national Congress, on request, information required of it, providing any cooperation demanded by the Congress, and carrying out all tasks assigned to it by the president for the fulfillment of its objectives and responsibilities.

All of you, dear fellow citizens, are public men in the highest sense of the word, men devoted to the search for a new destiny, against injustice [words indistinct]. All of you have shown your willingness to place the homeland's good above personal gain. All of you have borne the responsibility that democracy gives those who are chosen as its representatives and have placed the homeland above parties, just as Generals Bolivar and Herrera suggested.

For these reasons, I have gratefully called upon you, as responsible individuals, to be a part of the great drive for peace. Thank you very much. [end recording]

LLOREDA CAICEDO VIEWS RESULTS OF U.S. TRIP

PA020426 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 30 May 84 pp 1A, 9A

[Article by Hector Gonzalez B.]

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo yesterday said that Colombia and the United States will hold a meeting to review the treaty on extradition and mutual legal assistance.

Lloreda Caicedo held a news conference at the Foreign Ministry to announce the results of his trip to the United States last week.

He said that various topics were discussed and that even a timely effort was made leading to the resumption of talks between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Lloreda added that according to recent ECLA estimates, the increase in interest rates from 11 to 23.5 [as published] percent in the United States implies an additional and unforeseen expenditure for Latin American countries which amounts to some $3 billion. He noted that this increase affects Colombia by $90 million.

"But anyway, the practical effect on the entire region represents a new, unforeseen burden, thus making the foreign debt issue a more acute problem than anticipated," the foreign minister noted.

In referring to the review of the treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, Lloreda Caicedo stated that during his trip to the United States he met with various government officials, and they agreed on the need for a bilateral meeting to make a careful study.

"The Colombian Government believes it is opportune to agree with the United States on certain adjustments to the treaty on mutual legal assistance, because it was said there could be certain aspects that are unconstitutional which must be corrected in order to try to obtain the treaty's ratification by the two parties," he remarked.

He said that the talks with U.S. officials included the struggle against drug trafficking, and Colombia suggested bilateral contacts to review existing treaties, as well as those which have not been ratified. This should be done, he noted, to accommodate the positions of the two countries so that the treaties can be implemented effectively. The foreign minister also said that the United States showed willingness in the face of a need for greater cooperation in this area.

The United States and Contadora

In regard to U.S. support for Central American peace efforts being made through the Contadora Group, Lloreda Caicedo said that an open dialogue was held but its final effects are not yet known.

He said that the Colombian Government explained its views and that there is still political space to try to reach agreements and advance in the internal reconciliation process of the countries and make progress in the great peace agreement that we are seeking.

"I believe that, no matter what, the insistence of the United States, Cuba, and other countries which somehow influence the region it is necessary to expand the path and avoid unforeseen interferences as we approach the final stages of the negotiations," the minister added.

He stressed that his trip to the United States accomplished the fortunate mission of getting Nicaragua and Costa Rica to resume their dialogue.

"This weekend an event was held on the border (between the two countries) which is very significant from the viewpoint of the reconciliation of the two nations, and everything is aimed at overcoming difficulties and incidents that had occurred on the border," the minister said.

GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE VENEZUELAN ATTACK

PA011445 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 26 May 84 pp 1, 3

[By Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] The Presidency of the Republic yesterday assumed responsibility for investigating the attack on fishermen who were in international waters on the Arauca River in Arauca Intendancy. Welmer Arnulfo Colina, a minor, died, 5 others are missing, and 10 were captured by the attackers.

Jose Neira Rey, the president's adviser for border matters, has announced that the Foreign Ministry is preparing a document on the attack, which has been characterized as one of the gravest committed by the Venezuelan Army in recent years.

According to residents of Los Pajaros, Arauquita Municipality, on 16 May, two armed helicopters and a small Venezuelan Army plane fired machineguns at Colombia fishing villages in Cano Juju and Babitas on the Arauca River -- which serves as a border with Venezuela -- killing the Colina boy.

Afterwards, Venezuelan Army troops entered Colombian territory and captured 10 peasants whom they questioned for a long time, accusing them of being either guerrillas or drug traffickers.

Jose Neira said that the situation is dramatic not only because of the abuses the Venezuelan authorities are committing but also because of the political, economic, and social situation in that part of the country, which now is being affected also by acts of violence.

The presidential adviser said it is necessary to find a solution to the situation in Arauca Intendancy.

Regarding the fate of Maria Tarazona, Teofilo Arias, Jose Villamizar, Alberto Cano Salgado, Tito Aldemar Salamanca, Crecencio Salcedo, Luis Doria, Jose Amado, Tito Segura, and Efrain Campos, president of the Juju Community Action Board, Neira said that they were released by the Venezuelan military authorities after interrogation.

However, the fate of Tobias Bohorquez Beleno, Hubert Valencia Tafur, and three other unidentified persons has not been established yet.

The presidential adviser also said that the intendant of Arauca, Alfonso Medina, has asked Colombia's consul El Amparo Venezuela, to investigate and report on the motives the Venezuelan military had in firing their automatic weapons at the villages of the Colombian fishermen.

The Intendant Speaks

The attack took place last week. The Venezuelan troops went to the banks of the Arauca River to arrest 10 fishermen, Alfonso Medina has stated.

During a telephone interivew, Medina said that this is the most serious border incident of the past few years.

He added: This is the first time there has been an armed attack by Venezuelan military helicopters on Colombian citizens. He said that 10 fishermen returned to Arauca after undergoing severe interrogation.

Medina also said that there is no report on the reason for the attack, but that during the interrogation the fishermen were treated as if they were either drug traffickers or guerrillas. Medina noted: They were asked to confess where they had arms, drugs, and camps.

A Colombian Government commission composed of Jose Neira Rey; Antonio Duque Alvarez, director of the National Criminal Court; and Amparo Bouza, another presidential adviser, is investigating the charges filed by the poor fishermen.

It has been reported that a complete and detailed report on the Venezuelan Army attack will be presented to President Belisario Betancur within the next few hours.

PRIME MINISTER ON PARIS CLUB TALKS, OTHER TOPICS

PY020315 Paris AFP in Spanish 2131 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Lima, 1 Jun (AFP) -- Peruvian Prime Minister Sandro Mariategui today disclosed that at the Paris Club meeting Peru will ask for a term of payment of 10 years, a 5-year grace period, and the lowest possible interest rates within the framework of the renegotiation of $1,046,000,000 of its foreign debt.

Mariategui, who is foreign minister as well as prime minister, today left for Paris, via San Juan and Madrid, with Finance Minister Jose Benavides and a group of advisers. Mariategui, who besides attending the financial negotiations that will start in Paris on Monday, 4 June, will meet with his French counterpart and other high-ranking French officials to discuss bilateral issues, indicated that Peru hopes to refinance this portion of its foreign debt which is due between May this year and July 1985.

Asked whether he will discuss with the French authorities the already announced purchase of Mirage airplanes, Mariategui refused to answer and merely said that the subjects to be discussed interest both nations. Speaking about the decision of the Bolivian Government to suspend the payments of its foreign debt to private international banks until the country's economic crisis is overcome, Mariategui said that Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde has extended his moral support for these measures.

Meanwhile, Economy Minister Jose Benavides optimistically stated that Peru will manage to renegotiate its debt because this time it will negotiate from a favorable position, unlike other times. Prior to this last phase of the renegotiation effort, Peru managed to obtain, at the end of April this year, the IMF's approval for a $341.6-million stand-by loan to be disbursed over 15 months and the first $100 million has already been released.

In mid-May, Peru reached an initial accord in New York to refinance $2.4 billion payable in 9 years, including a 5-year grace period.

COMMISSIONS FORMED TO NEGOTIATE AIR CONFLICT

PY021505 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Transport and Communications Minister Carlos Pestana has stated that preliminary talks are being held in search of a solution to the air traffic conflict between Peru and the United States. He explained that our country will maintain its position and will seek an agreement with the U.S. Government on the basis of reciprocity of flights.

[Begin Pestana recording] The U.S. ambassador has been kind enough to come to the ministry and we have had a long talk with him. Each side has formed a commission. The Peruvian Commission is composed of a representative of the Transport Ministry, one from the Foreign Ministry, and one from the cabinet. The embassy commission is formed by three of their officials. The two groups have been installed and they have held their first working meeting. The second meeting will be held on Monday. These are preliminary talks to set up an agenda and possibly a schedule for the round of negotiations which will probably be held by officially appointed delegations from the two countries. [end recording]

MILITARY TO ISSUE ULTIMATUM TO POLITICAL PARTIES

PY020108 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0038 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Jun (EFE) -- The Uruguayan military regime will give Uruguayan political parties a deadline to answer its proposal for democratization. If by 15 June no such response is received, the elections promised for 25 November will be suspended. Military sources told EFE tonight that this ultimatum will be relayed at a meeting which the Armed Forces High Command has called with leaders of the three authorized political parties on Monday, 4 June.

The military, which had reduced its demands for a future agreement on democratization, has again hardened its position in view of the lack of response to the proposal it made to political parties.

The document on this stand has been unanimously approved by the military commanders and will be released 1 day before the announced return on 16 June to Uruguay from Buenos Aires of the exiled Blanco Party leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate.

POLICE, DEMONSTRATORS CLASH IN 3 JUNE PROTEST

Commission Calls Protest

PY020028 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2115 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Jun (EFE) -- Various political parties and organizations have urged the Uruguayan people to participate in a new day of peaceful protests against the military regime scheduled for 3 June. A rally will be held at 1100 local time (1400 GMT) at the monument erected in the memory of the members of the Constituent Assembly of 1830, followed by a march along 18 de Julio Avenue. The call is sponsored by the multisector commission which is made up of the Blanco and Colorado Parties, the banned left-wing coalition Broad Front, the unauthorized Interunion Workers Plenum (PIT), the Social and Cultural Association of Public School Students (ASCEEP), the Peace and Justice Service, and others. This new antigovernment protest willl take place only 1 week after the preceding one which took place on Sunday, 27 May, during which voluntary blackouts took place, pots and pans were banged, and a proclamation was read.

Police Ban Rally

PY020134 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Excerpt] The office of the chief of police tonight announced that no authorization was given for the protest rally scheduled for Sunday, 3 June, at 1100 [1400 GMT] at the Obelisk.

'Violent Clashes' Reported

PA031552 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1543 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] Montevideo, 3 Jun (EFE) -- Clashes today between police and opposition groups have resulted in an undetermined number of wounded and many arrests. Montevideo is currently being rocked by violent clashes in the wake of a government ban on demonstrations called for by groups opposed to General Gregorio Alvarez' regime.

Police Report on Incidents

PY032346 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 2302 GMT 3 Jun 84

["Text" of Communique No 18 released by the Montevideo police on 3 June]

[Text] Pursuant to the communique released on 1 June announcing that the rally scheduled for today at the Obelisk was expressly banned, the Montevideo chief of police hereby informs the public of the following:

1. Despite this warning, groups of hotheads still converged on several points of 18 de Julio Avenue. The most notorious group gathered outside the National University where, taking advantage of their proximity to the traditional neighborhood fair which was taking place on Tristan Narvaja St and hiding behind peaceful fairgoers, this group began to insult and to provoke the police personnel charged with maintaining order in the area and began to throw stones and other hard objects at them.

2. As a result of these serious acts, five police officers were seriously injured and were taken to city hospitals; others suffered less serious injuries and were treated at police internal health facilities. Police cars and properties of shopowners at the fair were also heavily damaged.

3. As a result of the riot, three bystanders unfortunately were also wounded and taken to city hospitals. Several demonstrators were arrested.

4. Those who called the banned demonstration have been summoned to police headquarters to determine their responsibility.

5. A report on all police actions in this case will be submitted to the appropriate court.

URBAN TRANSPORTATION WORKERS STAGE STOPPAGE

PY011501 Paris AFP in Spanish 0108 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Montevideo, 31 May (AFP) -- Workers of the main urban transportation enterprise in Montevideo today staged a stoppage demanding salary hikes and marched through downtown Montevideo.

Nearly 1,000 conductors and drivers of the above-mentioned enterprise, which provides 70 percent of the bus service in Montevideo, participated in the 1 and 1/2-hour march this afternoon. The police did not intervene. Fifty percent of the buses of this enterprise did not run and the other half barely covered regular services, most of them being driven by their owners.

In front of the Montevideo City Hall in downtown Montevideo, the striking workers called for an immediate 2,500-peso (some $45) salary hike and the establishment of a moderately priced ticket, one that is accessible in light of the people's purchasing power. Sources of the transportation workers union said that this is the first step of a mobilization plan which will continue tomorrow (Friday) with a rally that is to be staged in front of the main office of the enterprise and will continue until 5 June with other types of measures.

PASTORA ARRIVES FROM COSTA RICA, ENTERS HOSPITAL

PA020035 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0018 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Caracas, 1 Jun (DPA) -- Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, arrived in Caracas today aboard a private plane that brought him from San Jose, Costa Rica. According to the audio-visual news media, the plane that brought the wounded Commander Cero and aid-de-camp Tito Chamorro landed at Caracas International Airport at 0010 GMT. He was immediately transferred to a military hospital in Caracas, as had been reported earlier.

IMF TEAM ARRIVES TO REVIEW ECONOMIC PROGRESS

WA040909 Rome IPS in English 30 May 84

[By Federico Martinez]

[Text] Caracas, May 30 (IPS) -- A team of officials from the International Monetary Fund began a review of the Venezuelan economy here today, while government officials insisted they had no plans for agreement with the lending agency. The IMF delegation is here on a routine annual visit, rather than to negotiate a loan, the officials stressed. "We are here to gather information, evaluate it, and later make a report that we think should be ready by August," said Jose Faghembaum, a member of the IMF team.

Venezuela, the fourth biggest foreign debtor in Latin America, is currently engaged in negotiations with its creditors to reschedule a portion of its $33-billion debt. Many observers expect the commercial banks to pressure the government to follow the example of other Latin debtors, and win an IMF "seal of approval" for its economic policies. President Jaime Lusinchi's administration, however, is confident that it does not need to resort to the kind of economic measures the IMF normally demands in return for a loan. Officials here point to a healthy $11 billion in international reserves and steady oil income as factors in Venezuela's favor. "To think that Venezuela will adopt a policy of contraction, when we have talked rather of expanding the economy, is unacceptable," Planning Minister Raul Matos said today.

The government has in fact announced a series of austerity measures since it took office earlier this year, and Faghembaum noted that "some IMF recommendations have been followed." Lusinchi is hoping for a surplus in the public sector budget this year, for example. One of the IMF team's major complaints after its 1983 review of the Venezuelan economy was the large budget deficit.

Overcoming that deficit "will be a point in Venezuela's favor, because it shows an advance from the situation inherited from the last government," said Leopoldo Carnevalli, head of the government's central budget office. But the government says it is not prepared to adopt a number of other suggestions generally seen as elements in the IMF "recipe" for economic recovery, such as a freer import regime, less price controls, and reductions in the public sector workforce. "Opening up imports would mean the liquidation of our industrial heritage," Planning Minister Matos said today. Instead, he added, the government plans to "draw up an import-control system that will stimulate domestic production."

LOWER HOUSE CRITICIZES U.S. 'PROTECTIONISM'

PA021421 Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 26 May 84 pp 1, 15

[By Armando Perez Montano]

[Excerpts] The Chamber of Deputies has demanded that a sound bilateral trade agreement be concluded between the United States and Mexico and that tax barriers that affect our exports be eliminated, bearing in mind that Mexico is the third largest buyer of North American products in the world. It said that, because of our country's difficult financial situation, credit restrictions and increases in interest rates may affect our growth as a whole and prevent us from fulfilling our international commitments; only exports can help solve our problem, allow us to generate our own financing, and import what we need.

After saying this, Enrique Soto Izquierdo, secretary of the Chamber of Deputies' Executive Commission, noted that we are the third most important buyer of U.S. products and that we export 70 percent of our products to that country. These exports are being adversely affected by the U.S. Government's protectionism, he said.

Soto Izquierdo noted that at the latest congressional meeting, the Mexican legislators stressed the negative effects on Mexico of the automatic application of compensatory taxes in Mexican products. In the United States it is believed that we are subsidizing our export products. Soto Izquierdo said that the United States has taken an extreme position toward these alleged subsidies for export products. He said: For example, it is believed in the United States that we subsidize articles whose production requires fuel, which is provided to Mexico's industrial sector of relatively low prices.

Soto Izquierdo insisted that the next step should be the conclusion of a Mexican-U.S. bilateral agreement that can establish healthy trade relations. He noted that as the two nations are interdependent, the least that they can do is to ensure equitable trade relations, adding that the United States should not impede our exports, which produce foreign currency exchange, because we need them to meet our credit commitments.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR ON CENTRAL AMERICA, OLYMPICS

PA020243 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 18 May 84 p 19-A

[Text] The solution to the Central American problem cannot be found through military means, Soviet Ambassador Rostilav A. Sergeyev has said, emphasizing the need to completely exclude foreign interference in the area. The diplomat reiterated his country's strong support for the Contadora Group and indicated that the USSR shares Mexico's appraisal and views of the conflicts on the isthmus and their possible resolution. He also denied that the USSR is involved in the Central American situation.

In addition to the conflicts' economic and social causes, he mentioned the existence of foreign causes. All political literature points to this: For 100 years the United States has had vested interests in the area. He explained that it has used the region to expand its transnational companies. We can now see, he continued, that by refusing to give aid to Nicaragua and preventing others from doing so Washington seeks to serve notice that it alone can intervene in the region. Sergeyev underlined that the Central American situation has worsened in past days.

He stated that the USSR is not involved in the area, whereas the United States has troops, bases, advisers, and weapons, and for many years has trained the isthmus' military chiefs.

The USSR, he said, does not now have or plan to have military bases abroad, and neither do the other socialist countries; yet the NATO nations have hundreds of them.

After noting that it is necessary to draft a new development strategy for Third World countries, Sergeyev went on to say that the USSR reiterates the need to develop a new international economic world order and a fairer division of labor worldwide.

Interviewed after he visited the David Alfaro Siqueiros exhibition at the Beaux Artes Palace, the ambassador said that in August the Soviets will have the opportunity to see the exhibition, since it will travel to Moscow, and possibly to other cities, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of relations between the USSR and Mexico.

Sergeyev confirmed that his country will not participate in the Los Angeles Olympic Games. He denied that this decision is related to Ronald Reagan's reelection campaign and added: "We will not participate because the United States is violating the spirit of the Olympic Charter and poisoning the country's atmosphere with anti-Soviet campaigns. When Reagan states the need to destroy communism in Central America -- we are sure that in the USSR we are building it -- he means he wants to destroy all communism."

There is no difference between his statements regarding Nicaragua and his statements about a truly socialist country. He added that, coming from the highest level, such statements tend to generate a hostile atmosphere toward Soviet athletes.

The Soviet withdrawal does not imply an economic boycott, so we do not think there will be reprisals in that respect, he stated. Reality cannot allow such a thing; politics and the Olympic Games are two different things. Sergeyev pointed out that the USSR will await the next Olympic Games with the certainty that not all countries will violate the Olympic Charter.

Concluding, he announced that on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of relations between Mexico and the USSR, his country will participate in the forthcoming Cervantes Festival, in August the Bolshoi Ballet will visit, and there will be other cultural activities.

SEPULVEDA, GDR'S FISCHER CALL FOR PEACE EFFORTS

FL012348 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2212 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico and the German Democratic Republic have reaffirmed their decision to continue their struggle for a more just international order, the Foreign Relations Secretariat reported in a communique. Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor and his East German counterpart, Oskar Fischer, expressed concern over the interruption of the world process of detente, the impetus of militaristic efforts, and the resurgence of the economic crisis. The two officials added that all these conditions could annul the prospects of growth for developing countries.

Before returning to his country, the East German foreign minister said that to avoid having mankind sink into nuclear disaster the GDR is prepared to discuss any subject related to the safeguarding of peace in Europe. Fischer said that the current international situation demands that all the nations of the earth sit down at the negotiating table to peacefully solve the differences between the states that are fighting and to avoid greater evils.

He said that his country agrees with the call by the Governments of Mexico, Greece, India, the Soviet Union, China, France, and Great Britain for suspension of the tests, production, and emplacement of nuclear weapons. Fischer and Sepulveda Amor also agreed on the need to support the countries in the above-mentioned group and to continue the struggle for peace.

PARAMILITARY GROUP FOCUS IN NEWSMAN'S MURDER

PA021600 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0542 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Mexico City, 1 Jun (EFE) -- The Mexican daily EXCELSIOR today reported that investigations into the murder of Mexican journalist Manuel Buendia have focused so far on the "paramilitary" group "Tecolotes," which operates in the city of Guadalajara. Buendia, one of the most popular columnists in the country, recently charged that "ultra-rightist" groups with "paramilitary" functions exist within the "Tecolotes" organization. According to Buendia, this group had its beginnings at the (private) Autonomous University of Guadalajara.

EXCELSIOR noted that the Federal Security Directorate (Mexico's political police) arrested eight members of the "Tecolotes" group to interrogate them on the crime, which has produced a wave of protest among Mexican journalists. The Mexican press indicated that the investigations have concentrated on the "Tecolotes" group, but there has been no official report on as to who executed and planned the crime. Today, the Mexican police distributed two composite drawings of Buendia's alleged murderer. The two drawings are very similar, depicting a slim man with deep-set eyes and a small mustache. Nonetheless, there is no further information available on the case.

Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid condemned the crime, and ordered pertinent authorities to conduct a thorough and expeditious investigation to uncover the perpetrators of this "unspeakable" murder.

"Last Minute News," EXCELSIOR's first evening edition, reported that 2,000 policeman are conducting the investigations throughout the country. Although the "Tecolotes" seem to be the focus of police investigations, EXCELSIOR recalled that Buendia was a sharp critic of dozens of private businessmen, government officials, and the CIA.

BRIEFS

ANTIDRUG PLAN SUCCESS NOTED -- Defense Secretary General Juan Arevalo Gardoqui yesterday explained to President De la Madrid that the implementation of the "Candor" Plan has had good results and that from 1 December 1982 to 15 May 1984, the authorities destroyed marijuana and poppy plantations valued at 201,526,500,000 pesos on the black market. A total of 28 commanders, 205 officers, and more than 4,000 troops participated in this action. They used 55 vehicles and 3 Army and Air Force helicopters and destroyed 84,589 poppy plantations and 41,859 marijuana plantations. [Summary] [Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 23 May 84 p 6 PA]

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS -- Defense Secretary General Juan Arvalo Gardoqui yesterday informed President Miguel de la Madrid of the following appointments: General Alfredo Hernandez Pimentel as director of the Weapons and Explosives Federal Registry; General Arturo Soto Gris as director of the Signal Corps; General Juan Lopez Ortiz as commander of the Plaza Matamoros Garrison in Tamaulipas; and General Jose Chavez Cruz as commander of the 34th Military Zone in Chetumal. [Summary] [Mexico City NOVEDADES in Spanish 23 May 84 p 6 PA]

DISPUTES OVER LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS UNRESOLVED

PA011730 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 29 May 84 pp 1, 29

[by Jorge Mombeliard]

[Text] Seventeen appeals for annullment against elected legislators have been received so far by the Electoral Tribunal's general secretariat. None has yet been solved, and the tribunal is analyzing the method which will be used to determine the quotient, half quotient, and remnant in electoral circuits where no one has been officially proclaimed.

The information was supplied yesterday by a General Secretariat spokesman, who said he did not know when they would finish counting the tally sheets from the voting tables in each electoral circuit, which is being done in "a race against the clock."

The Electoral Tribunal magistrates are currently adding and reviewing the votes for the 8-6 Circuit -- district of San Miguelite -- and they will probably have the results by tomorrow, Wednesday; however, no one will be officially proclaimed until after the 3 June elections.

The Electoral Tribunal's Concern

The Electoral Tribunal is concerned about the prevailing situation because it has voluminous file containing 17 appeals for annullment against the elections in several circuits. The tribunal must also issue several official proclamations. Since the 3 June elections are drawing near, the situation is becoming more complicated every day.

Even though the Electoral Tribunal has not finished San Miguelito, it must also review the tally sheets for Colon -- particularly Circuit 3-1, where the results of more than 100 voting tables have been challenged -- and then proclaim the winning legislators for those circuits.

In addition, the Electoral Tribunal must review several tally sheets for the Province of Panama and other provinces in the interior before proclaiming the winners.

Very few legislators have been elected by the vote counting boards in each circuit, because most of the boards did not finish their work -- for different reasons.

Our sources said it is difficult to say when all the legislators would be officially proclaimed, because the tribunal will now have to deal with the other election's problems

RADIO TRANSMITTER SET AFIRE, PROGRAM SUSPENDED

PA020311 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 May 84 p 1C

[Excerpts] In what many Colon people have described as a vindictive escalation against the large number of opposition votes in that Atlantic city, several repressive incidents -- which culminated with the burning of the Radio Hit transmitter located in Cocosolito, in the France Field area of the Colon Free Zone early on Sunday -- have occurred.

Radio Hit, which is owned by the well-known Colon businessman Alonzo "Toto" Fernandez, a candidate for mayor on the Democratic Opposition Alliance ticket in the 3 June elections, has been used to make several reports on government corruption.

The transmitter destroyed in this new act of political vandalism had been recently acquired. It cost more than 30,000 balboas, and it was purchased to guarantee great power and effective coverage of the entire province. It was said that the programs carried by that station were an important factor in prompting the reaction of the underprivileged Colon people against the government-backed candidacy, which suffered an overwhelming loss there.

Meanwhile, Fernandez told LA PRENSA that he had reported this criminal act to DENI [National Department of Investigation] to conduct the pertinent investigations and identify those responsible for this new act which has been widely repudiated in Colon.

Fernandez noted that, prior to this incident, known groups of government politicians had staged a demonstration in front of Radio Hit to protest against the "Political Horizons" program it carried which reported on government corruption. Therefore, he said, "it is strange that the transmitter has now been completely destroyed by a fire that was apparently started with gasoline and other fuels."

Fernandez added that, despite his report, the authorities have not taken any measures in this regard. However, he disclosed that he did receive a note from the Government Ministry suspending the "Political Horizons" commentary program for "violating clear current rules included in Law No 11 of 10 February 1978."

Government Suspends Program

PA021350 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 29 May 84 pp 40, D6

[Letter from the acting director of the Panamanian Government Ministry's Media Directorate to the general manager of Radio Hit, dated Panama City, 25 May]

[Text] Mr Alonso Fernandez, General Manager, Radio Hit, 15-119 Melendez Avenue, Colon

Dear Mr Fernandez:

I hereby inform you that the morning radio program "Political Horizons" broadcast by your radio station has failed to comply with the provisions of Article 3 of Law No 11, dated 10 Febraury 1978, which states the following:

"Any newspaper, whether printed or published [as published], broadcast, or televised, may be published without prior authorization; however, the director of such a newspaper must present a signed statement in writing to the Ministry of Government and Justice, providing the following information:

a. The name of the newspaper;

b. The names and residences of its directors and of those who will replace those directors in temporary absences;

c. The company that will do the printing or the radio or television station or other media that will be used; and,

d. The frequency with which it will be printed or published.

Moreover, Mssrs Francisco Chiari and Otto Jaspe are not licensed to operate as radio commentators or announcers and therefore should not be using a microphone in those capacities.

As for Julian Romero and Garcilaso de la Rosa, their licenses expired in 1982 and 1974, respectively.

I would appreciate your suspending said program until this legal requirement is met.

Of the penalties specified for violation of this law (Article 16), we are applying only Paragraph "a," which provides for a "public reprimand."

With the certainty that the requested measures will be taken, and with the greatest respect,

Sincerely yours,
Euclides M. Corro R., Acting Director
copy to: Mario Julio, Governor of the Province of Colon

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL POSTPONES 3 JUNE ELECTIONS

PA022329 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2225 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Decree No 194 issued by the Electoral Tribunal in Panama City on 2 June; read by Electoral Tribunal Secretary General Everardo Tomlinson]

[Text] The Electoral Tribunal, exercising its constitutional and legal powers, considering;

That the Electoral Code provides in Article 174 that the elections for mayors, councilmen, and corregimiento representatives must be held on the first Sunday of the month of June in the corresponding year of the respective constitutional period.

That by virtue of the above, Decree No 189 of 10 October 1983 convoked popular elections for mayors, councilmen, and corregimiento representatives on Sunday, 3 June 1984, throughout the national territory.

That to date the printing shops that were hired to print the ballots have not delivered a considerable number of said ballots, despite previously undertaken commitments.

That the magistrates of the Electoral Tribunal were not informed by the General Directorate of Electoral Organization [Direccion General de Organizacion Electoral] about the delay in the printing of the ballots until Thursday, 31 May, having had no previous knowledge of the situation; having been told that the printing process was proceeding normally.

That upon receiving notice on 31 May of this situation, the magistrates called an immediate meeting at which the General Directorate of Electoral Organization and the printing shops in charge of printing the ballots gave assurances that on the morning of Friday, 1 June, they would supply all ballots for the interior and remote areas in the Province of Panama and on Saturday, 2 June, ballots for the Panama City and San Miguelito districts would be completed in the morning.

That today it was determined that the printing shops have been unable to fulfill their commitment and are demanding several additional days to conclude the work.

That with the ballots to be received today it would be impossible to make an adequate and timely distribution, and in addition, the ballots of several parties would be lacking in many areas of the country.

That a number of political parties have stated that the credentials of their representatives at polling booths have been destroyed, which may deprive them of due representation in these electoral bodies.

That all of these circumstances would result in the elections of 3 June lacking guarantees for all political parties.

That Articles 287 and 288 of the Electoral Code provide that the holding of elections without the required guarantees would be grounds for nullifying the elections.

That Article 302 of the Electoral Code provides for the possibility of holding partial elections when they are not held in one or more polling booths.

That if elections are held on Sunday, 3 June, they would not have the due guarantees in many areas of the national territory and in other areas it would not even be possible to hold elections.

That in view of such an extraordinary situation as the one outlined here, the Electoral Tribunal must take steps to avoid holding elections that would have to be called again;

Decrees: Article 1. The popular elections for mayors and corregimiento representatives will be held on Sunday, 10 June 1984, throughout the national territory.

Article 2. The popular elections for councilmen will be held on Sunday, 10 June 1984, in the following districts: Changuinola, two councilmen; Aguadulce, one councilman; Caru, two councilmen; Boquete, two councilmen; Chitre, two councilmen; Santa Maria, two councilmen; Pedasi, one councilman; Chiman, two councilmen; Tabaga, two councilmen; Atalaya, two councilmen; and Rio de Jesus, one councilman.

Article 3. The ballots, voting records, credentials, and other documents to be used in these elections bearing the date of 3 June 1984 will be valid for the election of Sunday, 10 June 1984, without need for change.

Article 4. This decree amends Articles 2, 3, and 5 of Decree No 189 of 1 [as heard] October 1983.

Article 5. This decree will take effect upon its sanction and must be published in the Bulletin of the Electoral Tribunal.

Publish, release, and implement.

[Signed] Cesar Quintero, President Magistrate; Rolando Murgas Torraza, Vice President Magistrate; Yolanda Pulice de Rodriguez, member; and Everardo Tomlinson H., Secretary General

COSTA RICA

MONGE CONFIRMS MEDIATION BETWEEN DUARTE, UNGO

PM010943 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 29 May 84 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "Monge Confirms in Madrid That Costa Rica Is Mediating Between Duarte and El Salvador's Guerrillas"]

[Excerpt] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge confirmed yesterday in Madrid, where he is on an official visit, that he is "promoting a dialogue between Salvadoran President-elect Jose Napoleon Duarte and Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR) leader Guillermo Ungo." Recently Monge met separately with Duarte and Ungo, to whom he offered his country's services to negotiate El Salvador's future. The offer was accepted, and the two sides agreed to "hold a meeting in Costa Rica at the highest political level desired." The negotiations will begin in San Jose at the beginning of July, when President Monge has returned from his 1-month tour of Europe. The existence of these negotiations had been revealed in San Jose by a spokesman for the FDR -- the political ally of the Farabundo Mari National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrilla organization, Jesus Ceberio reports.

Both Duarte and Ungo have expressed their confidence in President Monge's mediation, and so "the agenda is open, there are no prerequisites, and Costa Rica's Embassy in El Salvador has been offered as a second venue for the negotiations," according to Costa Rican Minister of Information Armando Vargas. The second stage of the mediation was completed shortly before Monge's jouney to Europe, when within a week he received Duarte and FDR members Guillermo Ungo, Ruben Zamora, and Eduardo Calles.

"Costa Rican Second Vice President Armando Arauz will represent his government at Napoleon Duarte's inauguration, and will take instructions to prepare for the meeting," Vargas stated. The Costa Rican president wishes to "support every democratizing process in Central America," and during his 1-month tour of 11 European countries which he began in Spain yesterday hopes to secure "political and moral support to enable Costa Rica to be in a better position to perform these services in the area," according to Minister Vargas.

Today Monge will lunch privately with King Juan Carlos and in the evening will attend an official dinner at the Oriente Palace. In the afternoon, Felipe Gonzalez will visit him at the El Pardo Palace.

BORDER COMMISSION WITH NICARAGUA CRITICIZED

PA011510 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 22 May 84 p 10

[Editorial: "The Panama Pact and Sandinist Policy"]

[Text] The pact that Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez signed in Panama to form a commission including Contadora Group representatives to watch the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border is on the verge of becoming a sharp blow to Costa Rican diplomacy and a naive surrender to the policy of the nine communist commanders who hold power in Nicaragua.

It is alarming to observe the immediate upsurge of Sandinist aggression against Costa Rica and its government following the Panama pact. This includes three concrete actions: 1) The attempted attack on Penas Blancas the night of 17 May, which served as the basis for the Sandinist government's charge that Costa Rica had allowed the attack from its territory.

Their contention turned out to be an absolute and total lie, intended to give grounds for their charge and create doubts about Costa Rica's sincerity in signing the Panama Pact only a few hours before; 2) Commander Daniel Ortega's threatening, aggressive, and interventionist statement to LA NACION and Channel 2 published on 18 May, in which he attempted to impose a policy on the Costa Rican people under the threat of an invasion, in which he intervened in Costa Rican internal affairs by claiming that the sovereign act of bringing in defensive arms was an act of aggression against Nicaragua, in which any aggression against Costa Rica is subject to the sole judgment of the Sandinist junta, which is in any event trying to justify its behavior toward Costa Rica with lies; 3) The publicity campaign launched in Europe to sabotage President Monge's trip, denounced by government sources, which attempts to portray Costa Rica as the lackey of the United States.

We must ask ourselves why these three incidents have taken place so soon after Foreign Minister Guetierrez' signing in Panama. It is not very difficult to answer the question. Nicaragua is unwilling to abandon its hard line against Costa Rica, particularly because it has worked. Nicaragua is aware that it can shape the Costa Rican Government's reaction in whatever way it chooses through its "bullying" policy. Nicaragua fears the arrival of the U.S. engineers who offered to help us on infrastructure projects, calling their arrival an act of aggression, which could provoke an aggression on their part. This is enough to dissuade us from bringing them and is an imposition on what should be a free and sovereign Costa Rican decision. Nicaragua wants more border supervision, although they know Costa Rica has already invested millions of colones at the border, and then threatens to shoot into Costa Rica "because there are ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] camps there." It then pushes us into action to the extent of appointing commissions -- as if 10 or 12 extra people will mean better border surveillance. Nicaragua wants to keep us immobile, tied hand and foot. It goes on to charge that importing defensive weapons is an act of aggression against Nicaragua, pointing to President Monge and his security minister as responsible for the act of aggression because they negotiated the arms shipment. Without taking into account that Nicaragua receives thousands of tons of the most sophisticated weapons systems, it dares to reject, just like that, Costa Rica's acquisition of some communications equipment, four-wheel drive vehicles, boots, patrol cars, and possibly guns. It goes on to say that if it considers Costa Rica has attacked Nicaragua, it can invade us. We hope that the aid to our police forces does not stop.

Nicaragua wants us to cover its back, not because we want or know how to do it, but because the commanders say so. They are weakening the system and the government so that they can appear to be victims and be able to take advantage of that image. They do this so as not to admit that they are the seeds of discord in Central America, the danger to peace in the isthmus, and that their expansionist zeal is threatening the democratic system. Costa Ricans must reflect on these things and reach conclusions that will come to define our stand on them.

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL CONFIRMS REMOVAL OF PVP LEADER

PA022138 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] The Supreme Electoral Tribunal has removed Manuel Mora from his post as secretary of the Popular Vanguard Party [PVP]. This tribunal confirmed the resolution issued by the Civil Registry declaring valid the 8 April PVP assembly which appointed former Deputy Humberto Vargas Carbonell as president, Arnoldo Ferreto as secretary, and Francisco Gamboa as treasurer. It has been reported that (Carlos Diez Solomaye), secretary of the electoral organization, [words indistinct] special session this afternoon to discuss the matter and they agreed to ratify the ruling issued by the Civil Registry director because it abides by rules stated in the Electoral Code.

EL SALVADOR

JOSE NAPOLEON DUARTE INAUGURATED AS PRESIDENT

PA011720 [Editorial Report] San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish at 1522 GMT on 1 June 1984, transmitting in a national network, began live coverage of the ceremony in which President-elect Napoleon Duarte was inaugurated.

Following a lengthy period in which various dignitaries and guests were ushered in, the arrival of Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana and of President-elect Duarte and Vice President-elect Rodolfo Castillo was reported at 1618 GMT. At 1636 GMT, President Magana addressed the gathering.

At 1706 GMT, Constituent Assembly President Maria Julia Castillo made a 5-minute address, noting that the president is responsible for preserving national sovereignty and for securing peace, and conferred the presidential sash upon Jose Napoleon Duarte, who then took his oath as president at 1710 GMT.

At 1719 GMT, Duarte began his inaugural address.

Magana Speaks at Inauguration

PA012323 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Speech by outgoing President Alvaro Magana at the inauguration of new President Jose Napoleon Duarte at the Sports Palace in San Salvador -- live]

[Excerpts] With this event to turn power over to the person elected by the people, the presidential period which began on 2 May 1982 ends.

In the past 2 years the people have decided to create a vacuum around insurgents. In this process, the people have displayed an exemplary perseverance. We are thus witnessin the sustained effort of a people to govern themselves. The recent electoral campaign had only one winner: the people. These extraordinary people did not learn about democracy in recent events; they always understood it, felt it, and demanded it. The people's desire for democracy became evident in the positive attitudes of civilized military men, labor and management groups, nonconformist youths, and all those who feel that democracy is the only solution for our situation. There was no violence in any of the elections. For this reason, many went to the polls. Side by side the polarized individuals of our political sphere, together with the reflexive majority, marched in an orderly fashion and even with comradeship to the polls and voted with full responsibility The people deserve the respect and gratitude of political leaders. The people did their part, and they did it well, extraordinarily well. Now they have the right to see promise kept.

The democratically elected rulers have the beautiful responsibility of making a reality of the concept that democracy is the government of the people and for the people. [applause] It is true that, exercising their basic rights, the children of our homeland are members of various economic, religious, professional, union, and political groups. It is also true that there is a common denominator among these sectors: nationality. All their members are Salvadorans, and the next democratic government should be made up of 5 million Salvadorans for 5 million Salvadorans. [applause] There is no room for the haughtiness of some and the arrogance of others. [applause]

There is no valid excuse for nurturing a suicidal division that would lead Salvadorans to chaos. It is time to reject intolerance, intransigence, and the lack of understanding. We must forget offenses and rancors and fulfill our main duty, which is maintaining national unity to build a better homeland. [applause]

Our limited democratic experience may lead us to misinterpret the most recent electoral campaigns, which were a display of radical and intransigent positions. However, we must not forget that in the recent past these same forces agreed to approve an advanced a Constitution which includes the fundamental principles of a pluralist, democratic, and modern state. [applause]

A responsible and civilized opposition cannot have as its goal the failure of rulers. [applause] Its responsibility is to adopt an attitude of constructive criticism and guidance to point to abuses of power and help to organize government activities for the benefit of all.

Our reflections on the behavior of the future administration and the opposition have a purpose: national unity. It is necessary, even if it is not a goal in itself. We call for adherence to democratic rules and the achievement of a national unity because it is the only way to face our difficult future. Only with national unity can we achieve economic recovery.

The human rights situation has also improved substantially, and there is reason to believe that their full respect may be accomplished in the near future. By stressing that at the end of May 1984 we are in a better condition than we were in early May 1982 I don't mean to claim any credit. I only want to note that, thanks to national unity, democracy is stronger, human rights are constantly progressing, the economy is experiencing a real recovery, and our international image has improved.

At the end of my mandate I must express my profound gratitude for the personal and institutional collaboration I have enjoyed. I must thank these honorable representatives for their support for our bills. I thank my collaborators who, coming from different political sectors, placed the interest of all above the natural tendency of party interests. I want to express my recognition for their dedication and loyalty.

I have to devote a very important part of this message to the Salvadoran soldiers. Our Armed Forces are now much more professional, capable, and efficient in defending the lives of the inhabitants and the democratic way of life we have chosen. [applause] There has been significant institutional progress within the Armed Forces. Although it may be thought that the defensive military effort needs a strong arm to channel national energy toward the military sphere, the Armed Forces of my country have chosen democracy. [applause] They have sponsored this process with repeated calls for all to vote and this was accompanied by exemplary behavior showing respect for the people's will.

I received power from the Revolutionary Junta, and I am now turning it over to Jose Napoleon Duarte. [applause] I received power from the Revolutionary Junta, and I am now turning it over to Jose Napoleon Duarte [repeats himself and crowd interrupts him with applause] as the man chosen... [repeats himself again] I received power from the Revolutionary Junta and I am now turning it over to Jose Napoleon Duarte. [interrupted by prolonged, very enthusiastic applause] I am almost finished now.... [applause] I received power from the Revolutionary Junta and I am turning it over to [applause] Jose Napoleon Duarte as the man undoubtedly chosen by his people. [prolonged applause]

Duarte's Inaugural Address

PA012014 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1720 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Inauguration address delivered by President Jose Napoleon Duarte at the Sports Palace in San Salvador -- live]

[Text] President Magana; President of the honorable Legislative Assembly; President of the honorable Supreme Court; Vice Presidents of the Republic; Your Excellency, the President of Guatemala; Your Excellency, the Argentine Vice President and Senate President and wife; Your Excellency, the Vice President of Panama; Your Excellency, the Vice President of Costa Rica and wife; Your Excellencies, Messrs Foreign Ministers; Your Excellencies, chiefs and members of special missions; Ministers and Deputy Ministers; Deputies of the honorable Legislative Assembly; Magistrates of the honorable Supreme Court of Justice; Your Excellency and reverend Archbishop of San Salvador [applause]; Your Excellencies and reverend bishops; Messrs representatives of the Armed Forces [applause]; honorable special guests [applause]; ladies and gentlemen, Salvadoran people [applause]:

Salvadorans, all Salvadorans, those who hear me here or are outside and especially the 5 million Salvadorans who await a better destiny for our fatherland with faith. [applause] In the face of the immense responsibility that has been given to the government that begins today, I want to start this first address to the nation by imploring divine help, with humility and recognition, [applause] in facing the many problems that overwhelm us, asking God for the necessary wisdom and strength to permit us to find the just reply that our fatherland's problems demand and success in our search for justice and happiness.

The significance of this unique, unprecedented, and new historic moment in our fatherland is that it is the product of the unmistakable and iron will of all of the Salvadoran people, who on two consecutive occasions -- 26 March and 6 May 1984 -- went massively to the polls to freely elect their legitimate rulers. [applause]

Today, hope is strengthened in the darkness of despair. Today, a light is lit in the long night of horror being experienced by El Salvador. Today, the loud shout of happiness is heard amid tears and sorrow. The delicate plant of democracy is being born in our fatherland today. The seed of democracy was planted by the Salvadoran people with extraordinary effort. It was watered with their tears and blood and fertilized with Spartan heroism. This seed began to successfully germinate under the firm decision of the revolutionary government junta in the March 1982 elections for deputies. Today, when it has been born, it is up to us to protect it, surrounding it with all possible faith, so that it will flower with the wonders of all colors and so that we will permanently harvest the fruits that we all desire. Today, a great national effort culminates and the path to a gigantic undertaking begins.

The achievement of democracy has never been easy for any people throughout mankind's history. El Salvador, all of its people, have paid a high price for it. This is why our first recognition must go to the people of yesterday and today, especially all who were persecuted, deprived of their freedom, exiled from the homeland, or lost their lives. My deep recognition goes out to all of them.

In a very particular way I wish to address all who kept their faith in democracy in the most adverse conditions, and who went to vote in the three democratic elections that we have held in the 80's.

The Armed Forces -- The people's determination and faith would never have been enough to ensure that their will would be respected without the firm and determined position taken by our Armed Forces. [applause] On 15 October 1979, the Armed Forces chose their course in accordance with the responsibilities and functions that the political Constitution specifies for them, and initiated the nation's democratic development on three different occasions. Overcoming all obstacles and temptations, they have guaranteed the free exercise of suffrage. Our civilians have seen with increasing admiration how the immense majority of the soldiers, guards, and policemen protected and cared for the voters and guaranteed the results of the elections. On behalf of the civilian sector, my deepest recognition goes out to the Armed Forces for this marvelous epic. [applause]

The friendly countries -- To the friendly countries that accompany us on this occasion, represented by high-ranking and distinguished dignitaries such as our country has never before seen, I wish to express the sincere gratitude of all of our people for the faith that has been shown, [applause] the solidarity that all of this represents for us, and the cooperation received throughout these ill-fated years to see that democracy in El Salvador can become a daily reality and not a mere rhetorical concept.

The Central Electoral Council [CCE] -- I also wish to repeat my satisfaction with [applause] and the homeland's gratitude to the CCE, which includes representatives of five political parties, who were equal to their responsibility, did all that was humanly possible, and remained immune to internal and external pressures and decisions.

The political parties -- It is also a good time to mention the necessary participation of the various political parties in the recent elections. Without them, democracy could not function. The homeland's undying recognition goes to all of the leaders and candidates, all party members and voters.

The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] -- [applause] Democracy implies obedience to the decisions made by the majority and respect for the minority. The honor, the immense honor of being the recipient of the people's will has fallen to the PDC. [applause] The genuine banners that are a part of the PDC ideological platform have been adopted by the majority of our people. The people have given me and the PDC a historic mandate and the political authority to continue the search for justice and freedom. [applause] They have ratified, accepted, and confirmed the position we have held for 23 years, as well as our performance in the revolutionary government junta. The people have made us their leaders and we will fulfill this mandate. [applause] My profound gratitude, then, to my companions in the struggle, the Christian Democrats, [applause] to the supporters of the political parties that accompanied us in this struggle, and to all voters who made it possible for democracy, justice, and freedom to triumph. [applause]

Why did we vote? When over 80 percent of the Salvadoran people turned out to vote, it was not only because of their profound faith in the democratic system and in freedom. At the bottom of their hearts, each Salvadoran has also expressed, in voting, his profound desire to achieve peace and to create the necessary conditions for all of us to have work, the means for a decent life, and access to products in accordance with the potentials of each of us.

Salvadorans, we must bravely, frankly, and realistically acknowledge the fact that our homeland is immersed in an armed conflict that affects each and every one of us; that this armed conflict has gone beyond our borders and has become a focal point in the struggle between the big world power blocs. With the aid of Marxist governments like Nicaragua, Cuba, and the Soviet Union, an army has been trained and armed and has invaded our homeland.

Its actions are directed from abroad. Armed with the most sophisticated weapons, the Marxist forces harass our Armed Forces and constantly carry out actions intended to destroy our economy, with the loss of countless human lives and the suffering of hundreds of thousands of Salvadorans. For its part, our Army has been considerably enlarged, it has received better training, and it is imbued with a profound patriotic commitment to defend the people and to keep us from falling into the hands of Marxist subversion, which seeks to establish a totalitarian dictatorship in our homeland.

In the face of these realities, many Salvadorans have wondered why our Armed Forces have not yet managed to defeat the guerrillas. Many foreigners ask themselves the same question. Others, overwhelmed by international Marxist propaganda, wonder why the guerrillas have not yet managed to seize the country. The response to this is very simple: It has been clearly seen that the immense majority of the people have chosen the democratic solution by means of the vote, and this obviously makes it impossible for the guerrillas to seize the country. Then there is another truth. This is that many of we Salvadorans view the conflict as spectators, concerned only about our own interests, without contributing to the economic recovery, our national defense, or the solution of our social conflicts. This is the gist of the matter. So far, the people have rejected the violence and the war, but have not taken dynamic action, alongside the Armed Forces, to defend democracy, even though the situation has changed drastically. This is why it is important to point out our position on dialogue and the negotiation.

I have often said that if dialogue and negotiation are taken to mean a discussion of power quotas with weapons on the table, this would be denying the very essence of democracy, distorting the very essence of civilian power, and making a mockery of the mandate that the people have bestowed upon us. It is tantamount to accepting and admitting that power on both sides is exclusively in the hands of those who wield weapons. I have often said that differences should not be settled through violence and death, but through reason. I wish to recall my own words when, speaking to the nation, I said: If they were capable of taking up weapons, they should now be audacious in laying them down.

I receive the presidency of the Republic directly from the people, because democracy has triumphed and the Constitution prevails. [applause] Therefore, the Armed Forces are fulfilling their specific mission with upright discipline, changing the course of history, leaving behind the sad past when the Armed Forces were used as a tool of repression by the political groups that controlled power while the opposition that struggled for justice and freedom was subjugated.

This achievement, which was well explained by President Magana, contrasts with the subjugation that leftist political sectors find themselves in with regard to the military guerrilla sector. The truth is that they have fallen under the authority of the guerrilla commanders, whom they must obey, and have not demonstrated so far that they are the leaders of the subversive movement. For this reason, to achieve credibility, they must demonstrate their authority over the armed sector, because in this way, any decision like that made by the subversive groups in Colombia would be heeded by the entire subversive movement. This would be an important signal, and one which the entire nation and all of our people expect, so that dialogue is not held with weapons on the table, but serves instead to find the political paths [applause] necessary to bring all Salvadorans into the democratic process. Since this is of momentous importance, allow me to repeat this: This would be an important signal, and one which the entire nation expects, so that dialogue is not held with weapons on the table, but serves instead to find the political paths to bring all Salvadorans into the democratic process [applause]

For its part, my government will make efforts to promote a climate of security and confidence that will permit us, as a prior step, to begin as soon as possible a national dialogue among all democratic forces and majority sectors so that together we can draw up a formula of peace that will be the faithful reflection of the real feelings of the Salvadoran people and that will be vigorously supported so that no one can doubt that such a formula is a genuine decision and an expression of the will of all of the people and that should be turned into a common, energetic, and supreme effort capable of overcoming all obstacles and of achieving the great objective of peace. For this purpose, we will appeal to the law, international solidarity, patriotic responsibility, and, when circumstances demand, to the legitimate right of defense.

The structural crisis. The crisis we currently face has its origins in the unequal structures that have characterized our political, economic, and social process. But we have also recognized our weaknesses and errors so as to implement adequate reforms and begin to build democracy, social justice, and respect for human rights, and to achieve the peace that we need and desire so much. In the face of this reality, El Salvador does not need foreign ideologies. It does not need to hear the deafening language of sophisticated weapons or the materialistic clamor of an alleged specific destiny. It does not need to be an area of international dispute.

However, we need to build a new fatherland, free of an unjust past and in whose foundations there will be a predominant place for human development and freedom within a context of participatory institutions that will guarantee respect for the rights of all individuals without regard to their political position, economic condition, or social situation.

In the face of this panorama of crisis at the national, regional, and international level in which the Salvadoran and Central American society finds itself, the wise and just decisions that history demands cannot be postponed. These must be based on confidence about what we are capable of doing for our people and not on an absurd, irresponsible, and useless challenge. For this reason and fully aware of what leading all my people to their own miracle of liberation means, I called for God's assistance, and after having placed my life and will under his care I accepted the challenge that this huge responsibility represents, one that with the legitimate pride of being a Salvadoran I fully reiterate.

The social pact. [applause] When we told the Salvadoran people that we were convinced that there is indeed a solution for El Salvador, we were not speaking in vain, senselessly, or least of all, demagogically, because in the face of the grave problems confronted by our homeland, we Christian Democrats -- faithfully following the democratic, pluralistic, and participational path -- proposed a social pact to our people so that together we might establish a government that rules. In other words, we are proposing to them this government, which today comes into institutional life, committed to all Salvadorans, and unafraid of the judgement of history because it is legitimate, because it obtained political power through the correct path, because it will rule with the people, because it has men and women who are capable, prudent, honest, dedicated, intelligent, and basically gifted with the courage that the national situation demands to achieve our most cherished interests.

This social pact, the essential basis of our government plan, which was overwhelmingly ratified by our people in the most beautiful and exemplary democratic feat ever performed in Latin America, has been called upon to materialize in our history the participation marked by solidarity of all sectors of Salvadoran society so that, at last, together, without bitterness or fear, in a climate that leaves no room for distinctions of any kind, we may work together to achieve peace, full democracy, and social justice.

These in turn can offer us the common good and the participation of the majority, values for which these great Salvadoran people have always fought; values on which misguided, impatient, and frustrated sectors even claim to support themselves, and which they have used as the primary reason for their struggle to obtain by means of blind and irreconcilable violence that which we are achieving peacefully as a majority. Those sectors do not realize that they are being treacherously used to establish an all-embracing dictatorship at all levels of the social structure, a totalitarian and atheist dictatorship in which the human being is stripped of his most elemental rights. These minority sectors are joined by others which, also by means of terror, stubbornly seek to return to a system of privileges which no longer have either a place or a reason for being in this new and emerging society, which has been called upon to grow deep roots.

For this reason I urge both sectors to abandon their violent stands and adopt the social pact so that together we may create a suitable climate so the peasants, the workers, the artisans, the small businessmen, in short, the sectors traditionally excluded from economic, social, political, and cultural development in El Salvador, may find and enjoy the betterment they yearn for in their lives and their work and for their descendants. Only in this way can we overcome the crisis. Only in this way can we achieve peace, the peace for which the people voted bravely, the peace that the innermost recesses of our nationality claim, the peace that the people conceive of not as a mere absence of armed violence but as an environment resulting from a system where there is no room for structural violence based on anachronistic forms of participation in the economic, social, political, and cultural life of our country.

My commitment. This commitment grows, erasing the political colors of the struggle, giving a reason for being to the effort made by all, because today we are indeed beginning to live in the democracy we yearned for; today, together, we will begin laying the groundwork to organize an overall system of health, culture, training, urban and economic planning, employment, and efficiency, and for strengthening the reforms and all those aspects making it possible to join efforts so that in making these efforts together, no room is left for party differences because the homeland is in danger.

My government will promote the practice of democracy by encouraging the various political institutions to participate actively and with confidence in the activities inherent in the new, emerging pluralistic system, so that this system is not merely the result of rigid and vertical decisions made at the top and directed at the base of the social pyramid, but is instead the flexible and balanced result of an interrelation among the people, their political parties, and their government. To this end, my government will broadly encourage the free expression of ideas and the social and individual rights guaranteed in our Constitution.

It will also strengthen the local governments in order to fully enforce the concept of municipal autonomy by activating and improving the government's dynamic action. This joint and coordinated effort will enable us to achieve the largest number of objectives in the shortest possible time, in accordance with the crisis we are currently experiencing and the local and national needs and objectives pursued. It is within this global framework that my government -- respectful and moderate in its relations with the other organizations of the state and local governments -- places my reasons for saying on various previous occasions that should the people so decide, I would be the president of all, for all, and with all Salvadorans and, as such, my government would be dedicated [applause] to achieving the common good for both the majority and the minority [applause] because we are all Salvadorans, we are all brothers, and we owe ourselves to each other.

Foreign policy. It is precisely here that the social pact goes beyond the homeland's frontiers because words can convince, but the example set by an entire people has impact, and the peace we long for and which we are sure we will obtain will go beyond the limits of the Paz and Goascoran Rivers, the Lempa and Torola Rivers. Like a valuable seed, it will have a firm and irreversible influence on the region because Central America, from the Usumacinta River to Darien, shares the ideals of both Bolivar and Morazan of facing the future together. For this reason my government, the first government freely elected by all Salvadorans in 50 years [applause] believes that its foreign policy must be both a reflection and a projection of its domestic policy. For this reason, we will respect the fundamental principles of international law that regulate the relations among civilized peoples, promoting a foreign policy characterized by total independence and the establishment of diplomatic and commercial relations with all countries, as long as this benefits our interests, as long as our principles are respected, and as long as this contributes to safeguarding our independence at all levels.

At the regional level, we now have all the moral solvency to endorse and give our support to the Contadora Group's efforts in the search for a political solution leading to levels of detente which smooth the way to peace, democracy, and social transformations with all the forces seeking these objectives.

Economy and development. Our major commitment is the promotion of our domestic development and economic recovery. This will permit the qualitative and quantitative strengthening of necessary and undelayable economic changes that will generate greater production, will increase the national wealth, and will diversify its distribution, raising the living standard of the Salvadoran people so they may live with the dignity and decorum they deserve as human beings. We must readjust our country's productive mechanisms in a just and balanced way that makes it possible to permanently integrate the vast majority of our people in the process of development and national recovery. Along with the just and balanced integration of the various sectors in the productive process, we will strengthen the existing mechanisms for production, commercialization, and service to generate greater wealth and more jobs. This coordinated action between the public and private sectors and between the management and labor sectors will increase efficiency and productivity, will strengthen the capacity for demand, and will create more markets, thus helping the balance of payments and improving not only the terms of trade but, naturally, our national production in general.

We are certain that, with general cooperation, the correct strengthening of the reforms already begun will permit, in the shortest time possible, an economic breakthrough that will fight unemployment and our country's lack of foreign exchange.

One of our great objectives will be to strengthen the national cooperative movement, because we feel that it is one of the most efficient mechanisms for giving participation and opportunity to all the majority sectors and for achieving economic democracy and political stability in the country. We believe that along with the qualitative changes initiated in our economic structure, a necessary and unavoidable way to increase wealth and create new jobs in accordance with the social model that we plan to establish is to protect and encourage a strong private sector with opportunities for small, medium-sized, and big businessmen, within the framework of harmonious relations and cooperation with the public sector. We are sure this will revitalize production and will help us substantially improve our objectives. Achievement of the above will be the basis for restoring and encouraging national confidence and trust, thus guaranteeing a greater attraction for foreign investment and a wider opening to international cooperation.

I have begun knocking on the doors of friendly nations, and I am sure that they will not leave us alone in the battle to attain the democratic destiny that awaits El Salvador and which it deserves.

Justice and integrity. The establishment, enforcement, and overall respect for human rights is inherent in the pacification and democratization of our homeland. It is for this reason that my government will endorse all the actions, initiatives, and mechanisms needed to achieve the overall betterment of our citizens so that, through the activities of the state, the individual is recognized as the origin and end of the common good. For this reason I will fight openly and tirelessly to control abuses of authority and violence of the extremes. [applause] I will fight tirelessly to eradicate from our homeland the death squads [applause] and all the problems of injustice and arrogance. No one -- because I shall not permit it -- will be able to say that this administration has violated the fundamental rights of my people. And whoever tries it will feel the full weight of the law. [applause]

Another important aspect included in my government plan is the fight to forcefully eradicate corruption, wherever it may be, [applause] especially corruption in public administration and in the administration of justice, as no one can place himself above the law or administer it in a biased or discriminatory way. The law will have to be defined and applied clearly as a means to strengthen the independence of the judicial branch.

We are aware that justice, democracy, and the legal groundwork here in El Salvador demand the participation of all the social and economic sectors of this nation and that the exercise and implementation of the law in our country must be both general and effective so that each and every Salvadoran can be sure of his rights. The legal processes must be geared toward a clear trial of the suspect and guaranteeing respect for the innocent.

Salvadoran people, in the election my party won 54 percent of the vote; in my government, in my administration, I intend to obtain the support of all, especially those who have not yet joined the democratic process. However, I will not disappoint my people to gain the support of the extremists on either side. Neither will I negotiate the mandate of my people to accept international assistance or the cooperation of any one country. [applause]

In 5 years, when I turn the presidency over to my successor, I aspire to have him receive a different country. I request your support and aid in these 5 years, which will be crucial. I ask you not to judge my government in advance or to deprive me of the chance to confront problems, because any delay may mean the death of a human being, the suffering of a mother, or the hunger of a child. The poverty and the problems are real, but together we can resolve them. The people's will elected me; their hope and faith will sustain me. When my people demand that I put an end to the death squads, to the violence, and to the foreign intervention, [applause] these demands are a challenge for me. [applause] I ask you to give me your support and strengthen our decision to work together, not apart. Let us all join the social pact. Let us seek the common points, let us plant the seed of faith, and we will harvest the fruits of democracy.

My friends, the Salvadoran Indians in the (?UPD) have asked me [applause] to end this message by invoking God again with the Our Father, using the Nahua language of our ancestors [applause] as a testimony of the cultural tradition of our race and our belief, which is the basis of both our history and our future. [Says prayer in Indian language] With this prayer I invoke God so He may guide and help us, so the people will understand us and will have faith, and so the peoples of the world can hear the clamor of this nation, which is asking for peace. Onward Salvadorans, the future is ours. Thank you very much. [applause]

ARENA COMMUNIQUE CALLS FOR NATIONALISM

PA020355 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 1 Jun 84 p 30

[Communique issued by the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, on 1 June in San Salvador]

[Excerpt] El Salvador comes first, El Salvador comes second, and El Salvador comes third.

This day, 1 June 1984, is the right time for all Salvadorans to think about the future of the country and about the sacrifice we must make as free citizens, with the everlasting hope for a free, sovereign, and independent country. The government and the people must have the capacity to think about an authentic nationalism, so that together, and in a strong and courageous manner, we can reject foreign intervention in the problems which concern the Salvadoran people exclusively.

For what has been said and in memory of the patriots who gave their lives in a permanent search for a democratic way, so that our small country can have a real democracy, we must not forget our past experiences nor the patriotic effort we have made.

GROUP WARNS DUARTE AGAINST NEGOTIATING

PA011515 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 31 May 84 p 37

[Statement entitled "Bitter Victory," issued by the Crusade for Peace and Work; date not given]

[Text] Well, Mr Duarte, you will be El Salvador's president tomorrow.

There are victories in this world which leave you with a bitter taste, especially when the price paid was the tears, frustration, and blood of a noble and hard-working people such as those of El Salvador. But the task ahead is to build instead of destroy, and we must stick to our patriotism and love for our homeland. We are here to begin a new stage that we hope will bring a peace and harmony that will allow El Salvador -- working always with the initiative of free enterprise -- to climb out of the abyss the enemies of freedom dragged us into.

This reconstruction is a task the concerns all of us: the government, the people, and the Armed Forces. Only if each of us assumes responsibility will we acquire the moral authority to demand and rule in the way free and democratic countries do. The government's objectives must be proven through action, not just with propaganda aimed at the rest of the world. If we are truly "on the path to a democratic process" and if Duarte will be "the president of all Salvadorans," we hope that his political pluralism or social pact will not be so broad as to permit sovereignty to escape or treason to go through, or so narrow that even democracy can be strangled. We understand treason to entail negotiating and sharing power with those who have been destroying property, murdering people, and promoting hatred and ideologies contrary to our Constitution. We understand democracy as a system in which the government does not rule behind the people's back or restrict freedoms such as freedom of expression, even if this expression is contrary to that of the regime in power -- because, if power is really in the hands of the people, it is through their opinions and criticism that stability and credibility can be brought to the process.

The Armed Forces play a very important role because they guarantee our sovereignty and are tasked with maintaining order, enforcing the Constitution, and above all becoming aware of the fact that to be apolitical does not imply disregard for violations of our laws or permission of abuses within its own institution. If this were so, the phrase "the Army will live as long as the Republic" would have no meaning.

In conclusion, the people have the difficult task of remaining vigilant. They must remain alert to the path down which our current leaders are trying to lead us. The people have every right to raise their voices when turns are taken toward ideologies that endanger our liberty and sovereignty.

At the outset of his presidential period, we want to remind Duarte that we hope the repression "of the past 50 dark years" he has criticized so much will not become a reality, thus imposing again the model of the 1980 de fact junta: of the radio and television network. [sentence as published] People do not like that, just as they don't like "the imposed president of all Salvadorans" currying favor with U.S. citizens involved in shady CIA deals, Venezuelans linked with IEPO [Venezuelan Institute for Popular Education], or Sandinists mixed with communists. Slavadorans like to be proud, patriotic, and over all, free, sovereign, and independent.

Signed, Crusade for Peace and Work [Cruzada Pro Paz y Trabajo]

HIGH-LEVEL MILITARY CHANGES REPORTED 2 JUNE

PA030133 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0056 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- The commanders of three garrisons and of a specialized antiguerrilla warfare battalion have been removed from their posts, military sources reported today.

Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Adalberto Cruz, who until now was commander of the Armed Forces Commando Training Center (CICFA) in the conflictive eastern Department of Morazan, has been granted a scholarship at the Inter-American Defense College in the United States. Cruz will be replaced by Napoleon Calito, formerly commander of the specialized counter-insurgency Atonal Battalion. Cruz told ACAN-EFE that the changes within the Army are "routine" and are being carried out to improve the efficiency of the Armed Forces.

Lieutenant Colonel Oscar Campos Amaya, commander of the Cavalry Regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel Rolando Rigoberto Ramos, commander of the Armed Forces Communications Training Center, have also been replaced.

This is the second time that high-level changes were made this week with the approval of new President Jose Napoleon Duarte, who was inaugurated yesterday.

GUERRILLAS SABOTAGE ELECTRICITY SYSTEM

PA022045 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 2 Jun 84 p 1

[Text] FMLN forces yesterday dynamited electricity posts on the northern trunk highway, leaving various sectors in the Departments of San Salvador, Chalatenango, and Cuscatlan without power, according to military sources from Aguilares. The rebels destroyed three posts located at the 28-km marker in San Geronimo Canton, Guazapa jurisdiction. Another terrorist attack on the electricity system occurred on the same road, close to the turnoff to El Paisnal.

REBEL RADIOS REPORT ON MILITARY ACTIVITY

Army Operation 'Defeated'

PA011422 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 1 Jun 84

[War bulletin issued by the FMLN's Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front in El Salvador; date not given]

[Text] At 0530 on 29 May, FMLN forces belonging to the Rafael Aquinada Carranza Battalion and local forces from the paracentral front ambushed an enemy convoy on the road from San Rafael Cedros to Ilobasco, near the Los Conejos turnoff. As a result of this action, the dictatorship's troops, members of the sapper battalions in Cabanas [words indistinct] of the 5th Infantry Brigade lost eight men, including an NCO. Several of their men were injured, as well. The ambushed enemy force was part of a larger force that was participating in an enemy operation in this area, which is controlled by the revolutionaries, in the northern part of San Vincente Department. The operation was discovered by our intelligence services and fighting began early in the morning, lasting until 1800. Thus, we foiled this counterinsurgency operation, whose purpose, from its very inception, was to massacre our people.

For our part, we regret the heroic fall in combat of Companero Mariano, a veteran fighter and military leader, as well as an outstanding member of the FMLN. Thus, yet another operation launched by the dictatorship in San Vicente Department has been defeated by our armed people. This report was sent by Commander Octavio Martinez and Commander Tamayo.

Patrol Ambushed in Usulutan

PA011558 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Attention, Salvadoran people. We have more information about our armed people's military actions. This report comes from Usulutan Department. Attention, Salvadoran people. Our weapons for combat, our weapons for victory continue to hit the dictatorship's troops. Attention, working people. We have information about the FMLN's actions on the Francisco Sanchez Eastern Front. Today, 31 May, at 0530, the FMLN's gerrilla forces set up an ambush on the Tierra Blanca bridge on the coastal highway in Usulutan Department. At 0740, an enemy patrol was advancing in that sector when our forces opened fire. Inthe ensuing 10-minute clash, the enemy suffered two dead and one wounded. After completing their mission, our forces withdrew without any difficulty.

Further Clashes in Usulutan

PA011406 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] In our previous braodcast, we told our people about the various military actions carried out by the FMLN in Usulutan Department, where we have been striking constantly at the dictatorship's forces. Here is additional information from Usulutan Department on the new blows of attrition dealt to the puppet Army: At 0530 on 31 May, FMLN forces laid an ambush near the Tierra Blanca Bridge. At 0740, an enemy patrol showed up and a clash ensued. Our units inflicted three casualties on the dictatorship: Two of the puppet Army's men were killed and another one was wounded. We sustained no casualties. After the clash, the enemy mortored the area and damaged several of the houses there. This information was sent by Commander Roberto Jimenez.

Air Force 'Bombing' Civilians

PA011425 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Attention to this report, which comes from Morazan Department: The dictatorship's Air Force is bombing the town of San Fernando and Azacualpa, in northern Morazan Department. Attention to this report on this genocidal action by the dictatorship, carried out with the planes and bombs delivered by Ronald Reagan to that criminal dictatorship. As a result of these bombings, 17-year-old Maria del Carmen Armita was killed. She was the daughter of Mrs Isabel Armita. The incident occurred in Azacualpa, the home of Clemente Armita, which was hit by the genocidal bombs dropped by the dictatorship. According to this report, a (?neighboring) house owned by Enrique Armita, (?and) the houses of Pedro Nolasco and Alejandro Armita were also destroyed in Azacualpa by the enemy's bombing. This is information on the dictatorship's criminal actions against the civilian population in Azacualpa, only a few hours before puppet Duarte takes office.

From San Fernando, the report is that the dictatorship's bombing, using U.S.-made planes and bombs, destroyed the houses of Jose Urtiga and Serapio Armita. In Azacualpa, a zone densely populated by peasants, the bombing also killed dozens of domestic animals. Puppet Duarte has not yet sat in the presidential chair given to him by the CIA, yet the dictatorship is already stepping up its criminal actions.

The people in arms, prepared and ready, will [word indistinct] genocide and terror and will achieve true justice and peace for our people.

Attack on Communications Center

PA020131 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Pay attention to the following report: Special forces of the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade (?launched) a successful operation against the (El Tacayal) communications center on 1 June. Special forces of the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade launched an attack on the strategic (El Tacayal) communications center killing 18 soldiers and wounding many.

We repeat: On 1 June, special forces of the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade of the FMLN carried out a special operation against the strategic (El Tacayal) communications center, killing 18 and wounding many members of the dictatorship's forces. [words indistinct] to wear out the troops of [words indistinct] this strategic communications located a few kilometers from the headquarters of the 3d Infantry Brigade in San Miguel.

GUERRILLAS REACT TO DUARTE INAUGURATION

View Inaugural Address

PA020023 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] The new puppet imposed by the U.S. Government has just finished delivering a demogogic speech. Jose Napoleon Duarte has delivered word for word the same warmongering speech that his imperialist boss has been delivering. This servile puppet to U.S. interests and traitor to the fatherland of the Salvadoran people has used the same language that the Reagan administration has been using.

Once again Duarte has acted with blind intransigence by refusing to accept a rational path in order to find a political solution that is just and worthy of the Salvadoran people. Duarte does not seem to want to face reality. He doesn't want to accept the fact that we are in the midst of a civil war in which the entire country is involved and which is not going to be solved by elections financed and imposed by the U.S. Government. Duarte has left the doors open for a direct and massive intervention by U.S. troops in our country. Duarte is not struggling to have peace. Duarte is a puppet of U.S. intervention. He is the best stepping-stone the Yankees have at this moment to carry out an aggression against our country.

The FMLN and the Revolutionary Democratic Front have reiterated their proposal for a solution to the war. It is a responsible, serious, and reasonable proposal to prevent more bloodshed in our country.

On Duarte as President

PA030429 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In his speech full of demagogy and reformist rhetoric, Mr Duarte tried to show off on Friday. He tried to show off by boasting of a power he doesn't have and talking about eradicating injustice when he is now the main political figure placed by the United States in the presidency to defend the unjust social order prevailing in our homeland.

In his boastful display, Duarte dared to say, very brazenly, that his appointment as president is the expression of the supremacy of the political sector over the armed sector, which is on the side of the ruling class. What great dreams and illustions this Duarte has. The appointment of Duarte as president is the expression of the supremacy of the control which the U.S. Government has over the Armed Forces and the millionaire oligarchs. Duarte's remarks become a joke, because his appointment as president was made, precisely, to achieve the strengthening and the supremacy of the Army through the the millions of dollars in weapons aid which the U.S. Government will now give more easily with Duarte as president.

Duarte is not only a president without power; he is simply a political puppet which the United States placed in the presidency. His ambitions were nurtured by the United States to lead him to believe that he is a president.

If Duarte wants, he may continue to believe that he has supremacy over the Armed Forces of the millionaire oligarchs. But Vides Casanova will continue to do as he pleases, and Duarte cannot do anything about it. Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, Colonel Reynaldo Lopez Nuila, Colonel Estaben, and all the military chiefs of the Army will continue to burn villages, kill peasants, bomb towns, shell cantons, and capture youths, and Duarte will not be able to do or say anything. On the same morning Duarte was giving his demagogic speech in which he referred to human rights, an A-37 plane of the Salvadoran Air Force, of which Duarte believes he is the supreme commander, was bombing Azacualpa of San Fernando, destroying many poor houses, wounding many people, and killing Carmen Argueta, an 8-year-old girl.

The Duarte government, if you want to call it that, will continue to be stained with blood because murders, kidnappings, tortures, political prisoners, bombings, and burnt villages will continue as a repressive policy of the Armed Forces of the millionaire oligarchs to respond to these people who are involved in a just war in El Salvador.

In the past few months, when the officers of the Armed Forces of the millionaire oligarchs have arrived at villages and cantons in the rural areas they tell the townspeople that they, just like the guerrillas, are on the people's side. They tell them that they, just like the guerrillas, want injustice in our country to end. These officers tell them that they, just like the guerrillas, advocate agrarian reform. This is what the officers of the Armed Forces of the millionaire oligarchs are saying in the rural areas as part of the instructions and tactics they learn from U.S. advisers to try to neutralize the people's support for our revolutionary army. However, despite these hypocritical speeches, the officers continue to burn houses and kill peasants.

We mention this because Duarte did the same thing in Friday's speech. He spoke of injustice in El Salvador and a need for change. He talked about the demands of the peasants and the people. The problem is that all of that was just demagoguery. The great difference between the revolutionary forces and Mr Duarte's Christian Democratic Party is that Duarte talks about ending the unjust social order in our country by respecting and being the ally of millionaire oligarchs and large landowners, who are precisely the main promoters of injustice in our country. The FMLN wants to end the unjust order by eliminating and destroying the power of millionaire obligarchs, creators of the unjust order.

Mr Duarte talks about the agrarian reform respecting the properties of oligarchs who hold thousands of manzanas of the best lands, expropriating the land of medium-sized land holders, and distributing bad lands to peasants to keep them contented and calm. In contrast, the FMLN proposes the implementation of a true agrarian reform by appropriating the large land holdings of millionaire oligarchs, by placing their wealth and benefits at the use of our society and country, by helping small and medium-sized farmers, and by improving the salaries and the living and working conditions of peasants and laborers.

The abyssal difference between what Duarte proposed and what the FMLN proposes is that his main allies are the U.S. Government, imperialism, and the millionaire oligarchs with whom he pleaded so that he could become president. The FMLN's main allies are the workers, the peasants, the poor, and the people in general, who are constantly joining the struggle to achieve the revolution and the final liberation of our fatherland.

Mr Duarte did not ask in his speech why the Armed Forces of the millionaire oligarchs have not been able to defeat the revolutionary forces despite all the hundreds of millions of dollars which they have received in these years of war. But the answer would be, Mr Duarte, because of the ample support which the peasants, the students, the workers, the poor, and the people in general give to the revolutionary forces. This support, Mr Duarte, weighs more and is worth more than the U.S. dollars which placed you in a position to become president.

Mr Duarte: You will never expropriate the wealth of millionaire oligarchs, and you will never destroy the power they have. You will never expel from the Army murderers such as Domingo Monterrosa, Lopez Nuila, and Vides Casanova. But, curious as it may seem, that is the guarantee for our victory, because as long as we have oligarchic injustice in El Salvador there will be popular discontent, and as long as there is criminal repression there will be rebellion. As long as there is injustice, repression, oligarchic exploitatin, criminal military officers, imperialist intervention, and treacherous puppets in El Salvador, we will have a people's war. As long as there is the popular organization, the revolutionary army, weapons in the people's hands, revolutionary vanguard, patriotic ideals, and desire for liberation, we will have a guarantee of victory.

GUATEMALA

PEACE COMMISSION MEMBERS WITHHOLD RESIGNATIONS

PA012231 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] According to the labor minister, delegates to the Peace Commission have decided to withhold their resignations. Contradicting the government minister's statements regarding the resignations that were announced at a meeting of the Peace Commission, Labor Minister Carlos Padilla Natareno said that the delegates who had announced they would resign have temporarily suspended their decision.

Padilla Natareno said that the representatives who had announced they were withdrawing from the Peace Commission were from Evangelical Church and the Guatemalan Journalists Association, but that they had agreed after a long meeting to await efforts that have been proposed by the remaining members in order to prevent the disintegration of the commission.

The labor minister, who along with the government minister represents the central government, said that he hopes the members of the commission will not withdraw in the end and that they will be able to work more dynamically within the commission.

Padilla Natareno described as positive the attitudes that were assumed during the commission's organization and stabilization stage. He said that these situations are normal and help to consolidate future activities.

Padilla reported that several institutions have expressed an interest in participating in the Peace Commission and added that, given their quality, they will be admitted because this is advisable to improve the institution's operation.

POLICE ON ALERT IN PREPARATION FOR ELECTIONS

PA020317 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 1 Jun 84 p 3

[Text] Colonel Mario Ramirez Ruiz, National Police spokesman, has reported that at 0600 yesterday 10,000 policemen, their officers, commanders, and subcommanders were placed on a state of alert for 30 days, or more if required by the situation after the elections.

The policemen, who have logistical support, modern infrared equipment to detect weapons and documents, and sophisticated radio communications equipment, have been deployed across the country to maintain control and to declare a war on violence and crime without reservation. Moreover, Colonel Hector Rafael Bol de la Cruz, National Police director, said that policemen have received instructions from their superiors to take drastic action against people who step outside the law and jeopardize the people's peace and tranquillity in what is regarded as a war without quarter on criminals, including bands of women and juvenile assailants. He explained that regardless of these orders the policemen have been instructed to act with caution, courtesy, and good manners, adhering to the clearest guidelines on human rights, so that anyone who is caught in the act or arrested is immediately sent to the respective court of justice, as has been done to date.

Other security corps and military units will intervene as the electoral process draws near, it has been announced, to allow honest citizens to exercise their right to elect their representatives to the national constitutent assembly.

NICARAGUA

JUNTA ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON SHULTZ VISIT

PA020512 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0446 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Communique issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction through the General Secretariat on 1 June]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government reports to Sandino's heroic people and the internationa community chat despite the aggression, deaths, and destruction being suffered by our people as a result of the undeclared war that the U.S. Administration has been maintaining against our country for the past 4 years, it has made multiple peace efforts and will continue these efforts until it can guarantee permanently our people's security, which is an indispensable condition to be able to devote all our efforts to tasks of national reconstruction.

Consistent with this desire, our government, despite an increase in aggressions, today received U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz who, on behalf of President Ronald Reagan, met with Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport, thus ratifying Nicaragua's unending desire for peace. The talks were held in a respectful and frank climate. During these talks, Commander Ortega explained the following:

A. Nicaragua's permanent willingness to begin serious, respectful, and systematic talks with the Reagan administration in an effort to achieve the normalization of relations between the two countries.

B. Commander Ortega emphasized the importance of the respect for the principles and norms of international law contained in the UN Charter -- such as nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other states, respect for self-determination, and the nonuse of force or the threat of force -- on whose compliance peace and peaceful coexistence depend. These principles must be the point of reference for any process of negotiation to normalize relations between the United States and Nicaragua.

C. Commander Ortega recalled that on 15 October 1983 Nicaragua formally presented proposals for serious and detailed political solutions to the U.S. Government and that our government is still awaiting a response to them.

D. Commander Ortega also insisted on Nicaragua's willingness to discuss U.S. security concerns and the problems of Nicaraguan security with a view to guaranteeing, through formal agreements, a stable solution to the problems discussed.

E. He also stressed that verbal expressions of willingness to negotiate must be backed by practical actions such as an end to military actions, an end to air and naval attacks and the mining of Nicaraguan ports, an end to the (?concentration) of military bases in the Central American region, and an end to covert war.

F. In the course of the talks, when they discussed the Central American crisis, Commander Ortega insisted on the need for a political, negotiated solution to the internal conflict prevailing in El Salvador worsened by the U.S. intervention in that country.

G. Commander Ortega reiterated that Nicaragua is not and will not be a danger for any country in the region, stressing Nicaragua's permanent willingness to enter into serious agreements with all the Central American states and the United States to guarantee international peace and security in the region.

H. Commander Ortega insisted on the need for the U.S. Administration to assume an attitude of real and effective support for the Contadora negotiating process.

I. In line with the norms and principles of international law, Nicaragua clearly established that matters of an internal nature or any other matter which concerns its sovereignty and self-determination are not negotiable.

The Nicaraguan Government, in informing our people and the international community about this meeting, hopes that Mr Shultz' visit becomes a serious step toward effectively beginning a process of searching for political solutions to the problems in the relations between the United States and Central America. Therefore, the Nicaraguan Government agrees to hold subsequent talks between representatives of the two governments, and, for this reason, we have appointed Companero Victor Hugo Tinoco, deputy foreign minister.

In adopting this agreement, Nicaragua insisted on the need for a third country, accepted by both parties, to be present at these talks. The manner of this participation will be determined in the first discussion of the appointed representatives.

In an effort to increase a frank and constructive dialogue, Commander Ortega concluded by telling Mr Shultz that he is willing to visit the United States immediately to meet with President Ronald Reagan personally.

[Signed] General Directorate of Press and Information of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction

ORTEGA COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH SHULTZ

PA031556 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] In a festive atmosphere and in the presence of hundreds of peasants and national and international journalists, the "Face the People" program was held yesterday in the (Lechecuago) neighborhood of the City of Leon. The meeting was presided over by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra and Sergio Ramirez Mercado, both members of the government junta. Also present were members of the cabinet, FSLN representatives in the 2d Region, and a religious group from the Netherlands. During the program, the townspeople expressed their concerns, requests, and suggestions on community problems.

Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra reiterated that his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Friday reflects Nicaragua's peace policy. Commander Ortega said that the meeting was constructive and that it was held to seek ways of initiating a process of negotiations.

[Begin Ortega recording, in progress] ...another meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, representing the U.S. President. We believe that this reflects Nicaragua's policy. We have always insisted on the need for talks to solve the problems that we are confronting and to put an end to the war, the sorrow of our mothers, so many sacrifices, and [words indistinct] this country in peace. This is why we met with Shultz yesterday.

This does not mean that we have entered a process of negotiations. As explained in the communique that was released last night, this was a very important meeting, which we believe to have been constructive, in which we sought a way to begin a negotiating process.

Naturally, in that 2-hour meeting we mentioned the damage that U.S. policy has done to the Nicaraguan people and the need to put an end to this aggressiveness and to what we see as a military escalation in U.S. policy. [end recording]

COSTA RICA BORDER COMMISSION ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PA011945 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Nicaragua has informed the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan Supervision and Prevention Border Commission that mercenaries working for the CIA plan to attack Costa Rican towns and border posts to hamper the process of understanding between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Our revolutionary government also told the commission that the Nicaraguan authorities were completely unconnected from the incidents that took place in the border area of Rio San Carlos, and added that the incidents were the product of rivalries among factions of the counterrevolutionary groups.

Here is a communique from the Supervision and Prevention Border Commission issued this afternoon at the Augusto C. Sandino International Airport:

The second meeting of the Supervision and Prevention Border Commission formed by representatives from Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and the Contadora Group countries was held on 31 May 1984 in the City of Managua, Republic of Nicaragua. During the meeting, which took place in a climate of friendship and sincerity, a series of very important issues for the commission's work were analyzed and the members approved the (?regulations) that will serve as a framework for the commission's operation.

The Costa Rican and Nicaraguan representatives reiterated their governments' determination to do everything possible to guarantee the success of the commission's work toward establishing relationships of friendship and cooperation, which historically have united the peoples of Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The representatives of the Contadora Group countries said that their governments are sincerely willing to collaborate with these same objectives.

The communique states that the commission was amply informed by the representatives from Costa Rica and Nicaragua on the military situation in the border areas and an analysis was made of the incidents that have taken place in the past weeks in that sector. The commission also received information from the Nicaraguan Government on the existence of plans for the perpetration of attacks on several towns and border positions. The objectives of these attacks would be to hamper the process of understanding between Costa Rica and Nicaragua and the work that in this regard is being carried out by the Supervision and Prevention Commission.

The commission was informed about the regrettable incidents that took place last night in the border area near Rio San Carlos which resulted in the death of highly regarded journalists. Regarding this incident, the Nicaraguan Government told the commission that the Nicaraguan authorities are totally unconnected with the incidents, which are the result of rivalries among the counterrevolutionary groups. The Costa Rican representative expressed his rejection of the incident, which he described as a terrorist action that saddens the Costa Rican and world press. The commission deployed the journalists' death and energetically rejected the terrorist action. It also agreed to make a tour of the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border areas where incidents have taken place.

The communique concludes by saying that after the commission ended its task, it met with Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, a member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, who expressed confidence that the commission's work is important to relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua and that it will contribute to peace in Central America.

RAMIREZ 'REGRETS' DEATHS IN PASTORA BOMBING

PA012024 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Nicaragua regrets the loss of human life resulting from the dynamite attack that took place in northern Costa Rica yesterday, according to Sergio Ramirez, a member of our Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, who was speaking to journalists after a meeting with the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan joint border commission, which consists of officials representing these two governments and Contadora Group ambassadors accredited to the two countries.

We feel that these actions are the result of internal misunderstandings within the counterrevolutionary groups operating in Costa Rica with support from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, Dr Ramirez Mercado said.

LA PRENSA CENSORED ON PASTORA BOMB STORY

PA020045 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] The independent newspaper LA PRENSA did not circulate yesterday because the government censorship office prohibited the publication of any information regarding the attack on Commander Cero [Eden Pastora] in southern Nicaragua. This information, which we reported in our first newscast in a direct relay from Managua by our special correspondent Dr Salomon Calvo Arrieta, was also reported today by international news agencies.

Yesterday's issue of LA PRENSA was scheduled to include an extensive report on the attack on Pastora and photographs from international news agencies. That issue also contained a complaint by LA PRENSA photographer Jorge Ortega, who is in prison on charges of participating in attacks by and affiliating with the rebel ARDE group led by Eden Pastora. The photographer's complaint, as we reported in our "News Impact" program, refers to the inhumane conditions in which he is being held by the state security organization.

OLYMPIC COMMITTEE CONFIRMS ATTENDANCE AT GAMES

PA020408 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Olympic Committee [CON] today confirmed Nicaragua's participation in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, California, and proceeded to send the preliminary list of the members of the Nicaraguan delegation. The CON explained that because of the difficult economic situation the country is experiencing, it proposed to the Olympic Organizing Committee that it pay for the Nicaraguan delegation's use of the Olympic Village in July instead of June 1984. It clarified that other Latin American countries have made the same request for similar reasons, and the CON expects no case will be rejected. It has also been reported that the various committees of solidarity with Nicaragua in the United States have begun a drive to finance the country's participation in the Olympics or at least part of it.

FDN TASK FORCES ATTACK CITY OF OCOTAL

Army Repels Attack

PA011928 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1846 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Managua, 1 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Some 1,000 anti-Sandinist guerrillas of a regional command attacked the City of Ocotal, the capital of the Department (province) of Nueva Segovia, this morning. Unofficial sources indicate that at approximately 0400 (1000 GMT) the anti-Sandinists surrounded the city of 21,500 inhabitants and attacked it with mortar fire. According to eyewitnesses' reports to ACAN-EFE, the anti-Sandinists attacked several objectives in the city, 200 km north of Managua.

Unofficial reports establish that the "contras" destroyed the building that houses "Radio Segovia," the Yodeco lumber mill, and the grain silos belonging to the Nicaraguan National Enterprises for Staple Foods (ENABAS), which is state-owned. Another of the anti-Sandinists' targets that was destroyed was the Ocotal electricity plant. It has been learned that the city has been without ground communications since 1000 (1600 GMT).

According to unofficial reports, many were killed on both sides in the fighting, which lasted several hours. According to the information, the Army managed to repel the attack. By around mid-day today, the clashes were taking place outside of Ocotal, in the city's neighboring mountains.

Defense Ministry Communique

PA020335 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Communique No 36 issued by the Defense Ministry Public and Foreign Relations Directorate in Managua on 1 June]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Defense Ministry reports:

1. Today at 0430, two mercenary task forces from Nicaragua's northern border region attempted to take Ocotal, capital of Nueva Segovia Department. The residents, organized in the Sandinist People's Militia [MPS] and other units of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and the Interior Ministry, repelled the attack.

2. Most of the counterrevolutionary forces were repelled by the MPS in Ocotal's northwestern outskirts. Only a 20-man counterrevolutionary band was able to enter the city to destroy Radio Segovia. It was unsuccessful. The radio station was partially destroyed and the mercenary command was eliminated by EPS forces, state security, and Physical Protection Corps, CPS, units who work at the station.

3. After the mercenaries' foiled attempt to occupy Ocotal, the counterrevolutionary forces, who were being pursued by the EPS, destroyed the following economic targets during their retreat: the Yodeco lumber mill, the ENABAS [National Enterprise for Staple Foods] grain silos, and the INE [Nicaraguan Energy Institute] installations. During their flight into Honduras, the mercenary forces clashed with the MPS in Mozonte village, 6 km northwest of Ocotal.

4. On the initial results of the different clashes with the mercenary forces, we report: 16 counterrevolutionaries were killed in Ocotal, including the leader of the task forces, nicknamed "Griego"; 6 counterrevolutionaries were killed in the Mozonte area; 4 counterrevolutionaries were captured; and various arms and supplies were taken.

5. On the part of the people's fighters, seven EPS members, two CPS members, and one voluntary police member were killed in action. As a result of the criminal action on the civilian population, two citizens, including a youth who was member of the 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement and a member of the Sandinist Defense Committees, were murdered.

6. Various EPS units have pursued the counterrevolutionary forces to the border areas and are conducting operations in Ciudad Antigua, Dipilto, and Mogoton, where the enemy has increased its incursions from Honduran territory.

Radio Segovia Again on Air

PA031806 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Excerpts] Once again the combativeness of our organized people has been demonstrated. Radio Segovia is on the air again in Ocotal.

Radio Segovia, the northern station, could be heard again yesterday and stronger than ever, showing the enemy that our organized people have not surrendered and never will.

Directly from Radio Segovia in Ocotal, our Companero Vicente Funez, the deputy director of the station, will give us details about the efforts that were made to put Radio Segovia back on the air:

[Begin Funez relay] We in Radio Segovia, the Sandinist station in the north, also known as the northern militia station, have always echoed Sandinist policy. Thus, the counterrevolutionary bands are afraid of the level of combativeness that we convey over the radio. We would like to stress that the efforts of Radio Sandino, in coordination with the People's Radio Broadcasting Corporation, made it possible for us to work quickly and to counter this CIA attack. We know that this was a CIA action, because it was a specialized group that tried to destroy us -- morally, politically, and physically -- and to eliminate the station, but they did not accomplish their objective.

Today, with Radio Segovia back on the air, they must admit that they have suffered a defeat and that they can't find a way to destroy us, now that we are in our fighting positions, well-armed, and unwilling to yield a single inch. We are determined to prevent any similar action, and we will put an end to their plans. [end relay]

FDN Loses 22 Dead

PA031625 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] counterrevolutionary bands suffered 37 casualties in their attack on the town of Ocotal. A total of 22 counterrevolutionaries were killed in the attack, while the remaining 15 were found yesterday 1 km east of Ocotal in a search conducted by the region's Sandinist People's Militias. It has also been reported that members of the Rafael A. Herrera counterrevolutionary group in the region yesterday ambushed two trucks in Waslala, killing two people. One of the trucks, belonging to the basic grains enterprise ENABAS [National Enterprise for Staple Foods] was carrying 150 quintals of grain, which was burned by the assailants.

DEATH TOLL IN PASTORA ATTACK RISES TO 10

PA020213 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1747 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] San Jose, 1 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- According to the latest reports from rebel sources, the number of people killed in the terrorist attack on Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, has risen to 10. In addition to the deaths of two reporters, Jorge Quiros, a Costa Rican, and Linda Frazier, a U.S. citizen, and that of a guerrilla woman, six members of Pastora's personal guard unit were killed.

The rebel leader and his lieutenant Tito Chamorro will be transferred to a military hospital in Venezuela, whose government has agreed and guaranteed they will receive the treatment needed.

Most newsmen wounded in the attack are still at the San Juan de Dios and Mexico Hospitals located in this capital. Of the guerrillas wounded in the attack on the "Tauro" General Headquarters in La Penca, Nicaragua, only three names have been disclosed. They are: Horacio Gonzalez, Wilbert Kaaron, and Lidionel Bogarin.

ARDE Blames FSLN

PA011346 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, has vigorously condemned the attack on the life of Eden Pastora in La Penca, on the northern San Juan River. The ARDE communique delcared that it holds the FSLN regime responsible for this action, in which several journalists and guerrilla Rosa Alvarez Zambrano were killed. The communique also stressed that ARDE will not give up its struggle to rescue the Nicaraguan revolution from Marxism-Leninism.

Robelo Visits Pastora

PA020351 Paris AFP in Spanish 1856 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Alfonso Robelo, political head of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), has lashed out at former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez for accusing the Central Intelligence Agency of being responsible for Wednesday's attack. "I do not understand how Perez can arrive at those conclusions from Venezuela without having all the facts about what happened," Robelo said, insisting on fingering the Sandinist government as the possible culprit behind the attack. Nevertheless, he said he was grateful for the Venezuelan political leader's efforts to have Pastora transferred to Venezuela in the next few hours.

ARDE's military chief and at least 20 others were injured and 7 people were killed when an unidentified type of device exploded last Wednesday as Pastora was holding a press conference on the banks of the San Juan River.

ARDE's leader refused to comment on his rift with Pastora over ARDE's merger with the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, the main anti-Sandinist group fighting in the nation's north. "We must set aside our differences in view of Wednesday's bloodshed," he said. Robelo made those comments when he visited Pastora, who this morning was still hospitalized at a San Jose clinic while arrangements were being made for his transfer to Venezuela today.

Pastora Leaves for Venezuela

PA012140 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 2010 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Excerpt] Orion Pastora, on his first cousin's behalf, has said the following:

[Begin recording] I would like to read a communique issued by Commander Eden Pastora at the clinic.

Communique issued by Commander Eden Pastora Gomez on the attack on ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] fighters and newsmen. In view of the attack on our forces, which killed several fighters and local and foreign newsmen, I state:

1. At this time there are not [word indistinct] elements of judgment to determine for certain the authors of the attack.

2. A [word indistinct] is under way to determine the responsibility for this vile terrorist attempt. The responsibility can fall either on the extreme left or on the extreme right, whose goals are the same: to thwart any third, democratic option to solve Nicaragua's problems.

3. All those persons who intend to hastily point a finger at the guilty have no foundation for their contentions, insofar as the results of the investigations are not known. Therefore, I consciously disavow all speculation in this regard.

[Signed] San Jose, Costa Rica, 1 June 1984 [end recording]

That was ARDE's Orion Pastora, first cousin of Commander Cero. We repeat: Scarcely 5 minutes ago, at 1408, as the press was listening to the official representative, Orion Pastora, Commander Cero, and presumably Commander Tito Chamorro, left unexpectedly in Red Cross vehicles with a police escort for the Juan Santamaria International Airport. Commander Cero's representative has stated that Commander Cero, following doctors' orders, will make no further statements. He made no statement here, and he will make none at the airport.

Directly from the Biblical Clinic in San Jose, Costa Rica, for our listeners in Costa Rica and the world, this was Gerardo Enrique Fonseca of "Impact News."

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS -- The following new appointments were announced by the Nicaraguan Government junta on 22 May: Guerrilla Commander Ramon Cabrales has become deputy minister of foreign trade; Edwin Zablah has become the government junta's minister delegate in the 5th Region; Jader Habed Lopez has become executive president of the Nicaraguan Institute of Insurance; and Julio Marenco has been appointed the government junta's minister delegate in the 4th Region. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 May 84 p 10 PA]

EXPORT FIGURES -- The Nicaraguan Foreign Trade Ministry [MICE] yesterday announced that as of 12 May 1984 exports amounted to $189,653,547. According to the MICE report, the breakdown by crop is as follows: coffee, $45,133,215; cotton, $89,938,177; sugar, $8,228,699; molasses, $1,951,640; bananas, (estimate) $5,647,122; sesame, $2,766,316; and nontraditional products, $11,179,526 [all figures as published]. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 May 84 p 10 PA]

CASTRO, MUBARAK EXCHANGE AFRICA DAY MESSAGES

NC021255 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1225 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] Cairo, 2 Jun (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the following message from Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, on the occasion of Africa Day:

On the occasion of Africa Day and the anniversary of the establishment of the OAU, I send the sincerest heartfelt congratulations to you and to the friendly Egyptian people. On this occasion, Cuba again expresses its solidarity with the legitimate struggle of the heroic Namibian people and with their legitimate and sole representative, SWAPO. Cuba reasserts its support for the South African people in their struggle under the leadership of the ANC against the disgraceful regime of racial discrimination. I also express the sincerest wish that the continent will remain unified within the OAU framework.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak replied with the following message:

I received with gratitude your kind congratulations on the occasion of our celebration of Africa Day and of the anniversary of the establishment of the OAU. While appreciating your expression of sincere solidarity with and support for the Namibian and South African peoples, I wish to assert that, out of its national and historic responsibilities, the Arab Republic of Egypt is also seeking -- together with all countries that love right and justice -- to achieve security and stability in our rising African continent to bring about a better human society.

SECRETARY SHULTZ MEETS WITH ORTEGA IN MANAGUA

FL021109 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] In Managua, Sandinist Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz have held talks. Shultz termed the meeting constructive, calm, and candid. He reported that as a result of that meeting, the United States and Nicaragua have agreed to hold further talks, and Washington has designated Special Ambassador to Central America Harry Shlaudeman as its representative.

George Shultz remained in Nicaragua approximately 3 hours, and did not leave the airport, where Commander Daniel Ortega met with him. The U.S. Secretary of State had met with the Contadora Group's foreign ministers in San Salvador last Thursday.

Nicaraguan Communique Noted

PA030346 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] An official communique issued in Managua has noted that the visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is a serious step in beginning the search for solutions to the problems between the United States and Central America. The document described the talks between the U.S. official and Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, as respectful and frank. It also stressed that the Sandinist government has agreed to begin negotiations between representatives from the two governments, and for this purpose it appointed Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco, who will meet with Harry Shlaudeman, who was appointed by Washington.

Ortega stressed to Shultz Nicaragua's permanent disposition to begin serious, respectful, and systematic talks with the present administration always based, he insisted, on principles and norms of international law.

Verbal expressions of a will to negotiate must be endorsed by practical actions, Ortega stressed, calling for an end to military maneuvers, the air and naval attacks, the mining of ports, the installation of military bases in the area, and the covert war against Nicaragua.

Nicaraguan Press Cited

PA030404 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Excerpt] The Nicaraguan daily newspaper BARRICADA has affirmed that the talks with the United States do not mean the beginning of a serious process of negotiation. In an editorial comment on the visit to Managua by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, BARRICADA stressed that, better than anyone else, the Nicaraguan people know that the opening of such a process must be accompanied by concrete facts to back up and bolster North American diplomatic efforts. Referring to Shultz' meeting with the Nicaraguan Government coordinator, Commander Daniel Ortega, the newspaper notes that the North American secretary of state was quite restrained and insisted on Washington's known official position.

EL NUEVO DIARIO, which is published in Nicaragua, asserted that George Shultz refuses to say whether the United States will stop the assistance to the counterrevolution.

CIA ACCUSED OF BIOLOGICAL WARFARE AGAINST CUBA

PA011750 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 May 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Among the many actions carried out by the CIA against Cuba is biological war. The objective of the CIA's secret -- or not so secret -- operations in this field has been to significantly damage our economy. In addition, and because of the CIA's criminal nature, the biological war has been aimed at human beings. This is what happened in the case of the hemorrhagic dengue that affected Cuba in the spring of 1981 and left 156 dead, including 99 children.

It is public knowledge that in November and December 1969, Congress discussed the development of the biological war against Cuba. It was learned that the Pentagon's generals and most reactionary politicians had selected Cuba as the prime target for the subversive actions to be carried out through biological weapons.

Two years later, in 1971, an epidemic of African hog fever occurred for the first time in the Western Hemisphere, specifically in Cuba. This disease had been unknown in Cuba and spread over many regions of the country for months. This forced the population to sacrifice nearly 500,000 hogs. According to the U.S. newspaper NEWSDAY in 1977, an unidentified CIA source told the newspaper that the appearance of the hog fever in Cuba had been caused by this espionage and subversion organization. Despite measures adopted by the revolution, another epidemic of this type broke out in 1980 in the western provinces. It was necessary to sacrifice nearly 175,000 animals. According to the consensus of competent specialists who investigated the facts, there is no explanation for the epidemic except sabotage.

In 1972, two other basic aspects of the Cuban economy particularly related to the international market -- namely, sugar and tobacco -- were significantly affected. This caused the country to experience a sizable loss of money.

As for the epidemic of hemorraghic dengue that appeared in 1981 and affected nearly 345,000 Cubans, experts from our country and foreign scientists arrived at the conclusion that the virus which caused the disease was of foreign origin.

They also said that the virus had been intentionally introduced into Cuba, but not from the Central American and Caribbean countries or the African Continent, as U.S. propaganda insisted. When the epidemic appeared in Cuba, not a single case of hemorraghic dengue had occurred in African or Southeast Asian countries. That same year, 1981, when the country still had not recovered from the effects of hemorraghic dengue, an outbreak of hemorraghic conjunctivitis appeared. This infectious virus affected many people and caused production losses because thousands of workers were unable to go to work.

The United States has not stopped its subversion and terrorism campaign against Cuba. Those who hatch organized crime in their heads try to disable our economy. Thanks to their scientists, medical specialists, and biologists, the Cuban people have emerged the winner in this struggle against imperialist aggression. This is demonstrated by the fact that the affected economic sectors have continued to grow.

REAGAN EUROPEAN TRIP, 'SCANDALS' NOTED

FL011914 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Jun 84

[Text] Today U.S. President Ronald Reagan began his trip to Western Europe. He will visit Ireland, France, and Great Britain. During his trip, Reagan will participate in the London meeting of leaders of the seven largest Western capitalist powers. He will try to achieve the active incorporation of his allies into the White House policy of confrontation. He will also try to subordinate his allies to the financial, economic, and trade policies advocated by Washington.

Reagan's trip coincides with growing concern in Western Europe over the adventures of his administration. Because of this concern, the U.S. President can expect to be received in Europe with mass protests staged by different social groups. As soon as it became known that Reagan would visit Ireland, the organization Women for Disarmament installed a peace camp opposite the Yankee Embassy. The announcement of the U.S. President's 3-day visit to Ireland provoked an unprecedented protest movement.

In the meantime, it was learned that indignation over the scandals of the Reagan administration is growing in the United States. Now there is a new scandal stemming from the fact that some officials take advantage of their official posts to commit abuses. Commenting on this subject, THE WASHINGTON POST says that the Reagan government now has worse ethical problems than any previous administration. The magazine NATIONAL JOURNAL accuses at least 38 officials appointed by Reagan of participating in illegal operations. Democratic candidate Gary Hart says that the number of officials participating in illegal acts is higher and can be estimated at 55. Congressmen Tony Coelho goes even further, stating that there are 100 embezzlers holding posts in this administration. These shady matters that are coming to light are trifles in comparison with the great scandal in which the President himself is implicated. Trusted colleagues of the president stole confidential documents from the Carter administration during the last election campaign, and President Reagan himself encourages these and other illegal operations that constitute an abuse of power.

NICARAGUA DECIDES TO ATTEND OLYMPIC GAMES

PA030451 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Jun 84

[text] The Nicaraguan Olympic Committee has asked the Organizing Committee of the Los Angeles Games to extend until July the deadline for remitting payment for the right to stay at the Olympic Village, where the prices are excessively high.

The Nicaraguan Olympic Committee added that committees of solidarity with Nicaragua in the United States are making efforts to collect among the North American people the money necessary to finance the participation of that Central American country at the Los Angeles Games.

ETHIOPIA, DPRK NOT TO ATTEND OLYMPIC GAMES

Ethiopia Cites U.S., UK Tour

PA020233 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Jun 84

[Text] The Ethiopian Olympic Committee has reported that it will not send a delegation to the upcoming Los Angeles Summer Olympics, which will take place from 28 July to 12 August. A statement issued in Addis Ababa states that the decision not to go to Los Angeles was made after a careful analysis of several aspects related to the Olympic principles and the African peoples' interests. The statement adds that the United States is using the Games for political purposes and against the progressive and socialist nations in violation of the Olympic Charter. The Ethiopian Olympic Committee's statement indicates that the lack of guarantees for their athletes' safety in Los Angeles and the UK Government's decision to authorize a rugby team to undertake a tour in South Africa influenced its decision.

Thirteen Olympic committees have decided not to send delegations to the Los Angeles games due to the constant violations of the Olympic Charter that have been committed in that city. The USSR, Bulgaria, Hungary, GDR, Laos, Vietnam, Mongolia, Poland, Afghanistan, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Ethiopia, Czechoslovakia, and Cuba will not attend the games.

DPRK Cites Security

PA030449 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Jun 84

[Text] The DPRK has decided not to send a delegation to the Los Angeles Olympic Games because of the irregularities the United States has committed in organizing the games. A communique issued in this connection in Pyongyang, the capital, asserts that the security of the DPRK athletes cannot be guaranteed in Los Angeles. The DPRK had held talks during the last few weeks with South Korean sports representatives about sending a joint team to the Los Angeles Games. However, the note says, no agreement was reached. South Korea announced that it will attend the games in Los Angeles.

Fourteen Olympic committees have decided not to send delegations to the coming Summer Olympics because of the continuous violations of the Olympic Charter by the United States.

Italian (Primo Naviolo), president of the Federation of Summer Olympic Sports [Federacion de Deportes Olimpicos de Verano], asserted that the possibility of not holding the 1988 Olympic Games in South Korea must be analyzed. French President Francois Mitterrand has offered Paris as the site of the 1992 Olympic Games.

COMMENTARY NOTES RESPONSE TO OLYMPICS DECISION

PA012020 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 May 84

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] The decision made by the Olympic committees of most socialist countries not to send delegations to the summer Games to be held in Los Angeles from 28 July to 12 August has elicited wide response throughout the world.

Sportsmen, leaders, news media, and sports analysts from a great many countries have stressed the big reduction in quality of the Los Angeles Games because of the absence of the socialist delegations. It is regrettable that the U.S. Government has created unbearable conditions for sportsmen of the socialist countries in Los Angeles, where more than 160 terrorist organizations banded together under official stimulus and orientation with the purpose of provoking and attacking the representatives of those countries.

The climate of anticommunist hysteria prevailing in Los Angeles, the continual violations of Olympic agreements, and the humiliating conditions planned for the delegations of the socialist countries prevented their presence at the Los Angeles Games, which had become a gross commercial show with electoral campaign trimming and also a provocation against the socialist nations.

The principled stance assumed by the socialist nations has been understood by most international sports organizations and personalities of the Olympic movement. Mexican Mario Vasquez Rana, president of the World Association of National Olympic Committees, has said that he views with respect the stance assumed by the socialist nations and asserted that the existence of an open anticommunist campaign aimed at the Los Angeles Games cannot be denied.

The U.S. Government, responsible for the situation created regarding the Games, is trying to convince others that the socialist countries have taken revenge for the U.S. boycott of the Moscow Games held in 1980. On that occasion, it has been confirmed, the United States exerted pressure on many nations not to send delegations to the Moscow ames, which, however, turned out to be the most brilliant and best organized.

The socialist countries particularly analyzed the prevailing conditions in Los Angeles and arrived at the logical conclusion that it is impossible to attend the Games without the risk of suffering provocations, humiliation, and aggression. It is unfortunate that the sportsmen of the socialist countries, proud of their Olympic traditions and well trained, will not participate in the Los Angeles Games because of the reactionary abuses of the Ronald Reagan government.

What will the weight lifting, track and field, swimming, volleyball, and basketball competitions in Los Angeles be like without socialist athletes? And what about soccer, boxing, archery, and gymnastics, to mention only a few sports? It is evident that the baseball exhibition series will not be of the same quality without the Cuban team.

Socialist athletes, however, will test their strengths and will present their skills in a competition of the highest order that the socialist nations will hold after the Los Angeles Games. This competition is open to any and all countries that wish to participate. This competition, whose details will be announced later, has been approved by the international federation [not further identified] and does not at all constitute a violation of the principle of Olympic unity which has been affected by the U.S. Government' meddling in the Los Angeles Games organization.

The socialist countries' absence from the Los Angeles Games does not at all represent a separation from the Olympic movement, which the socialist countries will continue to consolidate, as they have always done. These states have won more than half the medals awarded in previous games.

GRENADA

FORMER PRG OFFICIAL DISAVOWS BISHOP PARTY

FL312040 Bridgetown CANA in English 2005 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, May 31 (CANA) -- Former Grenada high commissioner to London, Fennis Augustine, who was tipped to head a party named in honour of the late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, has become the second official of the deposed People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) to publicly disavow the movement. In a statement issued here today, Augustine, a lawyer, denied that he was a member of the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement formed last Sunday at a ceremony coinciding with the 40th anniversary of Bishop's birth and the 14th annual celebration of African Liberation Day.

"I wholeheartedly support the Maurice Bishop Memorial Foundation as the organisation to honour the lives and work of Maurice Bishop, (and Cabinet Ministers) Unison Whiteman, Jacqueline Creft, and the others who were so brutally murdered on October 19," he said. However, he added: "I further believe that there is room at this time in Grenada for a left of centre patriotic party, but I have always opposed and will continue to oppose that such a party be named after Maurice Bishop."

Former Tourism Minister Lyden Ramdhanny, a businessman who served in the PRG but was not a member of Bishop's New Jewel Movement (NJM), earlier this week reportedly denied that he was involved in the new party, which is being coordinated by a steering committee headed by Kendrick Radix, a former industrialisation minister.

The new party has emerged from the ruins of the NJM which was destroyed last October 19 when a leftwing military junta seized power in a coup in which Bishop was killed, before it, too, was deposed by a U.S.-led military invasion six days later.

Another former Bishop associate, ex-Agriculture Minister George Louison said in a tatement that the rise of counter-revolution of the former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard clique and the murder of Bishop and others led to the U.S. invasion and "occupation of the sacred soil of Grenada and loss of our sovereignty and independence." "As a party of patriots...the Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement commits itselfs to join with the people to redeem our nation's honour and independence," the statement said.

It added: "We will make sure that the hardwon democratic gains made by our people are never surrendered. The unacceptable levels of unemployment, hunger, poverty, and genuine hardship today clearly expose the bankruptcy of those who exercise temporary authority and their allies."

BRATHWAITE CALLS FOR STRONG POLICE FORCE

FL291830 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 25 May 84 p 1

[By Joy Springer]

[Excerpts] A strong internal police force is a vital prerequisite for a return to stable democratic government in Grenada. This was said by Mr Nicholas Brathwaite, Chairman of the Interim Government of Grenada, as he delivered the feature address at the 79th passing out parade of recurits at the Regional Police Training Centre yesterday.

Thirty of the 72 graduating recruits were from Grenada. It was the first time since 1969 that Grenadian recruits graduated from the Centre.

Mr Brathwaite said yesterday that it was clear to the Interim Government from the start that the restoration of Grenada's shattered police force would have to be one of its first priorities, even though it was understood that this could not be achieved overnight.

Over the years, he said, both before and after the 1979 revolution, there had been a steady decline of the independence and efficiency of the force. He said: "Training standards and opportunities declined, financial support was reduced and political manipulation forced experienced and principled officers to leave the Force. Slowly and inevitably, public confidence in the force was destroyed. In the latter days of the People's Revolutionary Government, the once proud Grenada Police Force had been reduced to an impotent skeleton, sorely under-strength, devoid of the most basic equipment such as vehicles and communications and totally subservient to the People's Revolutionary Army."

DOCKWORKERS STAGE 2-HOUR SYMPATHY STRIKE

FL292348 Bridgetown CANA in English 2313 GMT 29 May 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, May 29 (CANA) -- Dock workers at the St George's port staged a two-hour work stoppage today in solidarity with 45 dismissed garment workers whose union are pressing their former employers to reinstate them, a union official said.

Eric Pierre, president of the Seamen and Waterfront Union, said the dock workers' action, taken on their own initiative, was to protest an incident earlier in the day at the Deco Industries Garment Factory premises where the dismissed employees are on picket. Pierre said a male employee at the garment factory, using a hose to wash a step in front of the building, had allegedly wet the former workers and hurled abuse at them.

The dock workers' action halted work on at least three ships, including the Geestport, which is accepting bananas for shipment to Britain.

Management of the garment firm said the lay offs were sparked by a downturn in overseas sales.

An official of the Barbados-based Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL), in Grenada for a meeting with the local Trade Union Council (TCU), has intervened in the impasse. The official met the company's managing director who proposed to withdraw the dismissal notices once the picketing is immediately stopped, Pierre said.

Pierre said the union would like to get the company's proposal in writing before the workers stop their action. However, the union leader said there must be further discussion on the question of whether the company had a good enough case for effecting retrenchment.

HAITI

MORE VIOLENCE, DEATHS REPORTED IN CAP-HAITIEN

FL301634 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 30 May 84

[Text] There has been more violence in Haiti. Three people are reported dead and more than 50 wounded in Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second largest city, in the second wave of demonstrations against the Duvalier government in just over a week.

Residents of Cap-Haitien say practically the entire population of 25,000 people marched through the streets Monday afternoon, shouting slogans against the regime of President Jean-Claude Duvalier. The demonstrations reportedly started when residents became angry at a truck that was distributing animal feed donated by the CARE organization instead of distributing food for the city's population. The people reportedly shouted: We are hungry, and they are feeding the animals. Witnesses say soldiers were called into the city and opened fire on a large crowd of demonstrators yesterday. Official reports say 3 people died and 50 were wounded. However, residents say there were many more dead.

On May 21st, rioting broke out in the town of Gonaives, following the police's beating of a woman. Troops were sent to that city and unconfirmed reports says several people were killed and many more wounded when soldiers fired into crowds of demonstrators.

DUVALIER RESHUFFLES CABINET AFTER RIOTING

FL311410 Hilversum International Service in English 0950 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] President Jean-Claude Duvalier of Haiti has reshuffled his cabinet in the wake of the food rioting in two cities last week and this week. The Army intervened when people laid seige to food stores operated by foreign aid organizations. President Duvalier has replaced five of his ministers, but the four most prominent members of his inner cabinet retained their posts.

JAMAICA

SHEARER REQUESTS END TO CONFRONTATION, AGITATION

FL311944 Bridgetown CANA in English 1916 GMT 31 May 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 31 (CANA) -- Jamaica's deputy prime minister, Hugh Shearer, conscious of the potential for social outbursts with the harsh economic policies being pushed through by the Edward Seaga administration, has pleaded with the country to eschew confrontation and agitation. Speaking in Parliament last night, Shearer, who is also the foreign minister, said that what was needed at this time was a substantial increase in production, especially for exports.

"The government is not seeking confrontation with any group, association, party, church, or other bodies," Shearer declared. "The sole objective which we are pursuing is a better quality of life for our people, better opportunities for our children, stability for our country, enjoyment of the full meaning of human dignity, equal rights, and justice." He added: "The urgent need is not agitation and confrontation."

The living standard of Jamaicans has been plummeting over the past six months following the devaluation of the local currency, plus a sharp reduction in spending by the government and slicing of subsidies. The cost of basic foods has been rising and the government, with the aid of the United States, the European Community, the world food programme, and Italy, is instituting a programme to touch nearly half of the population, ensuring that at-risk groups get at least the minimum required protein.

Shearer said that Jamaica needed to earn more to pay for its vital imports, and it was to this end that government strategy was devised. As much as the government would have liked to provide subsidies to keep down the cost of living, there just was not the resources to do this, he said. "Unpopular as the decisions are, they are the right decisions and are in the national interest," he said.